

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES, No. 169.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1849.

[PRICE 6d.]

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

AN AGGREGATE MEETING of Ministers and Sunday School Teachers connected with the Four London Auxiliaries, will be held in EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY EVENING, February 13th, 1849.

W. F. LLOYD, Esq., in the Chair.

To commence at Six o'clock precisely.

Tickets of Admission will be sent, through the Auxiliaries, to the Connected Schools. Platform Tickets will be forwarded to all the Ministers in the district. Ministers and others from the Country may obtain Tickets at 60, Paternoster-row.

HYMNS WITH THE MUSIC, to be sung at the above Meeting, are now ready. Price One Penny.

THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the SEVEN DIALS ASSOCIATION, in connexion with the WESTMINSTER AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY, will be held (p.v.) on MONDAY EVENING next, FEBRUARY 12th, at the MUSIC-HALL, STORE-STREET, BEDFORD-SQUARE.

R. C. L. BEVAN, Esq., will take the Chair, at 7 o'clock precisely.

The Revs. W. Dibdin, M.A., Dr. Hoby, H. Latrobe, J. A. Miller, R. W. Overbury, and other friends to the cause, have promised to attend.

Tickets may be obtained of Messrs. Nisbet, Berner's-street; Baisler, Oxford-street; and T. Smith, at the Depository, 20, Brewer-street, Golden-square.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.

THE NEW MODEL SCHOOL, JEWIN-STREET, near Aldersgate-street, connected with the Normal School of the Congregational Board of Education (for the training of Young Men as Schoolmasters), has been recently commenced, under the direction of Mr. DAVID CRUIKSHANK, as Master.

The Rev. W. I. UNWIN, M.A., Principal of the Training Institution, will, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, at Half-past Six o'clock, p.m., deliver at the SCHOOL-ROOM, JEWIN-STREET, an INAUGURAL DISCOURSE, explanatory of the principles which should regulate Education, and the methods by which it should be conducted.

Several ministerial friends, and other gentlemen, Members of the Board, are also expected to address the assembly.

The attendance of Day and Sabbath-school teachers is respectfully invited. Admission will be by Tickets only.

Tickets may be had at the Office, No. 10, Liverpool-street, Finsbury.

By order of the Board,

WILLIAM RUTT, Secretary pro tem.

February 3rd, 1849.

FINSBURY CHAPEL, SOUTH PLACE.

ON SUNDAY MORNING NEXT, Feb. 11th, and TWO FOLLOWING SUNDAYS, the Rev. NEWMAN TRAVERS, B.A., F.S.A., late of Lincoln College, Oxford, and Incumbent of the District of Pennington, Hants, will deliver a SERIES OF DISCOURSES illustrative of his Reasons for Seceding from the Church of England.

Service will commence at Half-past Eleven precisely.

LAW.

A RESPECTABLE YOUTH, aged 18, has been with a Country Attorney nearly two years, and with whom he is now residing under articles, but will, according to agreement, be assigned in April next (or earlier if indispensably necessary.) Any Country Solicitor requiring a working Articled Clerk, who would reside with his family, make himself generally useful in the office, and serve three years, may learn particulars by letter addressed to Mr. G. F. THURGOOD, Solicitor, 15, Pinner's-hall, London; or Mr. LANE, Solicitor, Braintree, Essex.

LAURENCE'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL,

COMMERCIAL AND FAMILY BOARDING HOUSE, 30, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER (late SMITH'S). The above House is within five minutes' walk of the London and Birmingham and the Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Station. The House has been thoroughly refitted and beautified, and every attention will be paid to the comfort of Commercial Gentlemen and Families who may honour us with their patronage.

Excellent Private Sitting Rooms, and every attention paid to the comfort and cleanliness of the Bed Rooms.

THE TWO HOUSES.—FINANCIAL REFORM.

"Curtail your expenses," we hear everywhere said; Now, to do this completely, begin at the head. Since all great reforms emanate from the brain; And, therefore, let's trust this appeal is not vain. The aid of the fair sex we need in our plan Of financial reform—for we know that they can, By selecting their goods from the Blue House depôts, Establish the fact that our stock of *chapeaus* Is the largest in London—the cheapest, the best, From the north to the south, from the east to the west. We've the newest Parisian styles in our stock, Replete with improvements of bleach and in block; Our Bonnets are famed the Metropolis round, And none can be more economical found; 61 the Royal Blue Houses your suffrages seek, With Freestone for Premier, whose styles are unique.

E. W. FREESTONE can now offer for inspection the most varied and extensive stock of Bonnets in the Metropolis, comprising the *élite* of the newest Parisian Fashions: also every description of Leghorn, Chip, Tuscan, Rice, and other Bonnets; with Ornamental Plaids of all kinds. Leghorne and Chips blocked by Hydraulic Pressure; and the whole bleached by De la Rue's Patent Process. Straw Bonnets cleaned at 6d. each, or 5s. per dozen.

Observe! THE ROYAL BLUE HOUSES, 11, High-street, Islington, and 152, High-street, Shoreditch.

E. W. FREESTONE, Proprietor. Shippers, Drapers, and Country Dealers supplied at Dunstable prices.

Orders per post, with a remittance, promptly executed.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, for MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE BY MODERATE PREMIUMS. Incorporated by Act of Parliament.

Edinburgh: 14, St. Andrew's-square.
London: 12, Moorgate-street, Bank.

The Scottish Provident Institution is the only Office which combines the advantages of Mutual Assurance with Moderate Premiums. The Premiums are, at early and middle ages, about 20 per cent. below those of most other Mutual Offices, and in some instances 25 per cent. lower.

This Society, being mutual, is free from the necessity of a nominal, or the burden of a real capital. Thus, dividends, and similar charges on the funds, are avoided.

The first septennial valuation, in December, 1845, afforded most satisfactory results, which are detailed in the published report.

The peculiar and leading advantages of this Office may be thus briefly stated:—

PREMIUMS 20 or 25 PER CENT. LOWER than in most other similar Offices, at early and middle ages. Thus, the Premium of the Equitable, at age 30 for £1000, would, at once, in this Office, assure £1287; which is obviously equivalent to a present bonus of £287, exclusive of prospective profits.

Premiums may be wholly paid in one sum, or in 7, 14, or 21 annual payments. The 21 years' scale little exceeds that of most similar Offices for the whole of life.

Exemption from entry charges, &c.

Liberal provisions for Members wishing to discontinue their payments; the Society being thus bound by its Deed of Constitution.

PROFITS all assigned to the assured, on a principle peculiar to this Office, and which is at once equitable, secure, and especially beneficial to good lives. The surplus is reserved entire for those Members who survive the period at which their premiums, with accumulated interest, amount to the sums assured, to be thereafter divided according to the values of their several policies. It is evident that much larger profits may thus accrue to the participants than by the usual system of other Offices, even though their premiums are considerably higher.

More detailed illustrations of the effects of this principle may be obtained at the Offices.

SPECIMENS OF PREMIUMS TO ASSURE £100 FOR WHOLE LIFE AND FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

(These Rates include a prospective share in the whole profits of the Institution.)

Age.	Payable for whole of Life.	Payable for 21 years only.	Age.	Payable for whole of Life.	Payable for 21 years only.
25	£1 18 0	£2 10 8	36	£2 8 2	£3 0 11
26	1 18 6	2 11 3	37	2 9 8	3 2 2
27	1 19 2	2 11 11	38	2 11 3	3 3 6
28	1 19 11	2 12 10	39	2 12 11	3 4 10
29	2 0 8	2 13 8	40	2 14 9	3 6 4
30	2 1 6	2 14 6	41	2 16 8	3 7 10
31	2 2 6	2 15 5	42	2 18 8	3 9 5
32	2 3 5	2 16 4	43	3 0 11	3 11 1
33	2 4 6	2 17 5	44	3 3 3	3 12 10
34	2 5 7	2 18 6	45	3 5 9	3 14 9
35	2 6 10	2 19 8			

All necessary information and forms may be obtained on application at the principal Offices in Edinburgh, London, Glasgow, and Manchester, or from any of the Provincial Agents.

WILMER OWEN HARRIS,

Office, No. 12, Moorgate-street. Secretary for London.

MERCHANTS' ACCOUNT BOOKS, made to any pattern and ruling, of the finest first-class papers, bound in the most durable manner in any style, and pagged or folioed in type without additional cost, on a reduced scale of charges calculated to meet the times.

WRITING PAPERS, ENVELOPES, and STATIONERY of every description, of the best quality, on the like scale. Lists on application.

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DAKIN'S ROYAL PATENT COFFEE.

ON introducing this extraordinary and highly-important invention it will be necessary, in the first instance, to point out the evils and imperfections arising from all other principles of roasting and preparing coffee at present in use.

Coffee is almost universally roasted in an iron cylinder, which is turned by hand or steam power over a coke fire. The coffee is let in and out of the cylinder by means of a slide, which is the whole length of the cylinder, and which it is next to impossible to render perfectly air-tight; the consequence of this defect is, that the sulphurous and noxious fumes of the coke penetrate into the cylinder and mingle with the coffee. We will suppose, however, the cylinder containing the coffee to be placed over the fire, which is then covered in, cylinder and all, and the process of roasting to be commencing. The first evidence of this fact is the vegetable vapour which is given off by the coffee, and which vapour is more or less impregnated with gallic and malic acids, which acids, acting upon the iron, form gallates and malates with that metal. The heat continues, the vapour is condensed, and forms a most noxious fluid, which is mingled with the coffee, and by the increasing heat is again vaporized, and is assisted in its destroying work by one of the most powerful acids known; namely, by the pyroligneous acid, which is now beginning to be given off by the coffee most freely. This vicious acid continues forming with the iron the acetate thereof, and imparting the same to the coffee, which receives, in addition, a sulphurous flavour from the coke. It should be observed, that so astonishingly great is the quantity of pyroligneous acid formed, that many ounces may be collected from the roasting of a single hundred weight of the berry. The action of the pyroligneous acid upon either iron or copper cylinders is well known; with the former a compound is formed which, if not decidedly injurious to health, gives to the berry a most acid and disagreeable flavour; whilst with the latter, the result is verdigris.

Again, by the usual roasting process, which is nothing more nor less than a species of destructive distillation, what possible

chance has the aroma of this valuable berry of being properly developed? Supposing, for one moment, that it were properly developed, it is well known to be exceedingly volatile, and would quickly escape through the crevices in the slide of the cylinder; whilst the vegetable vapour, being exceedingly sluggish, and containing the vicious and noxious acids, would remain behind, giving to the coffee that cankerous, acrid, and metallic taste, that renders the infusions of this otherwise most valuable and wholesome berry a beverage avoided by the delicate, and highly injurious to the health of many who consume it.

For guarding against all these evils, and for doing away with all these long-complained of imperfections, her Most Gracious Majesty has been pleased to grant to Dakin and Co. her Royal Letters Patent.

The plan on which "Dakin's Royal Patent Coffee" is roasted and prepared is as follows:—The iron cylinder is altogether done away with, and the coffee is never, under any circumstances, allowed to come in contact with iron. A SILVER cylinder is substituted, and the heat is obtained by means of the atmospheric air passed over hot plates, by which plan, as neither the fire, nor the fumes thereof, are in any way allowed to be in contact with the cylinder, the evils arising from the sulphurous vapours of the coke mixing with the coffee are entirely avoided. The Silver cylinder is so constructed, that through apertures made for the purpose, the vegetable vapour which contains the vicious acids from the coffee, is allowed to escape; whilst the apertures being closeable at pleasure, are immediately closed as soon as this, the first part of the process of roasting, is accomplished. The Silver cylinder then becomes air-tight, and the aroma, which otherwise would escape, is condensed on the berry, which thereby contains all its valued and inherent excellence. The Coffee, after being sufficiently roasted in a Silver cylinder, and after being cooled down in a Silver cooler, is ready for purchasers who buy their coffee whole; whilst the coffee that is supplied ground is pulverized between powerful stones, and for better preservation from the atmosphere is recommended to purchasers packed in glass bottles, containing two pounds each, which are corked down air-tight, and sealed with the Royal Arms.

DAKIN and Co. will have great pleasure in showing many testimonials which they have received from the most eminent physicians, surgeons, and gentlemen of the faculty, as to the beneficial effects and advantages of "Dakin's Royal Patent Coffee." The following certificate of Mr. Alfred S. Taylor, and Mr. Arthur Aikin, the great authorities on chemistry, medical jurisprudence, and the sanitary question, will, however, no doubt, be deemed conclusive:—

"We hereby certify that we have chemically examined four varieties of coffee, namely, best Mocha, Jamaica, very Fine and Good Plantation (Ceylon) Coffee, both in the raw state, and as prepared and roasted by the patent process of Messrs. Dakin. We have likewise chemically examined samples of the same varieties of coffee, roasted at the same time in the usual way, and the result of this examination is, that in *decoction* of flavour, odour, and as an article of diet, the coffee prepared by Messrs. Dakin's process is, in our judgment, superior to that prepared in the ordinary way.

"We have also examined the apparatus used by Messrs. Dakin for roasting coffee, and we find that all the surfaces with which the coffee comes in contact during this process are of silver. We find, also, that great care is taken so to regulate the degree of heat and the mode of its application as to render necessary a longer time and lower temperature to effect the roasting, whereby all risk of charring the berry or of producing empyreumatic oil is prevented, the separation of acid vapour is more gradual and complete, and a larger portion of aroma is retained than occurs in the usual methods of coffee roasting.

"The process of Messrs. Dakin appears to us, therefore, in a chemical view, better adapted than any yet suggested for procuring roasted coffee in a pure and wholesome form.

"ARTHUR AIKIN,

"ALFRED S. TAYLOR, F.R.S.

Lecturers on Chemistry in Guy's Hospital.

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, Aug. 9, 1848."

PRICE CURRENT OF "DAKIN'S ROYAL PATENT COFFEE."

In addition to the following, DAKIN and Co. have the best Coffees procurable from Demerara, Dominica, Malabar, Sumatra, Java, Padang, St. Domingo, Batavia, Havannah, Brazil, Bahia, Cuba, La Guayra, Porto Rico, &c.

	Per lb.
Common Coffee.....	s. d. s. d.
Ceylon.....	0 9 to 0 11
Good quality.....	1 0 to 1 2
Fine Plantation.....	1 4 to 1 6
Berlice.....	0 10 to 1 4
Very fine to finest.....	1 6 to 1 10
Jamaica.....	0 11 to 1 4
Good to fine.....	1 6 to 1 10
Very fine to finest.....	1 6 to 1 10
Costa Rica.....	1 2 to 1 6
A strong and good Coffee.....	1 2 to 1 6
Mocha.....	1 5 to 1 10
Choice old to finest aged.....	1 5 to 1 10

SELECTED SORTS—Whole or ground.

Common Coffee.....	0 10
Very good and strong.....	1 2
Very strong and full flavoured.....	1 4
Rich and fine flavoured Coffee.....	1 6
Particularly choice Coffee.....	1 8

The above are also supplied in 2lb. bottles, which bottles are charged 3d. each, and the same is allowed for them when returned.

The following sorts are supplied in sealed bottles, containing two pounds each, and no charge is made for the bottles:—

	s. d.
Two pounds of good sound Coffee, in a sealed bottle.....	2 6
Two pounds of strong and fine flavoured Coffee, in a sealed bottle.....	3 0
Two pounds of very choice and excellent Coffee, in a sealed bottle.....	3 6
Two pounds of the finest old mountain Coffee, mellow in ripeness and richness of flavour, in a sealed bottle.....	4 0

DAKIN and COMPANY, Patentees, NUMBER ONE, ST PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.

Gentlemen of science, and the public generally, are respectfully invited to inspect the machinery and apparatus employed in the roasting, &c., of Dakin's Royal Patent Coffee, and to view the whole in action, and Coffee constantly roasting, &c., at the warehouses of Dakin and Co., in Shoemaker-row—within a stone's throw of Number One, where an assistant is in waiting to accompany visitors to the warehouses, and to explain the whole of the ROYAL PATENT PROCESS for roasting and preparing coffee.

GENERAL PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,
4, HORSE-SHOE-COURT, LUDGATE-HILL.

MIAL AND COCKSHAW beg to inform their Friends and the Public that, having an extensive assortment of type, both for Book-work and Jobbing, they are prepared to execute all descriptions of Printing, with every attention to neatness and despatch, and on very moderate terms.

Estimates for printing Books, Catalogues, Reports, &c., furnished on the shortest notice, and every facility afforded for carrying them through the press.

Engraving, Stereotyping, and Copperplate and Lithographic Printing, executed in the first style and on moderate terms.

FURNITURE AND LOOKING-GLASSES.

THE extensive celebrity of JOSEPH LOADER'S Establishment, for twenty-five years, for all articles appertaining to the Upholstering Business, affords a certain guarantee to all purchasers from his Stock, that whatever they may select will be of the most approved Fashion and best workmanship, moderately charged.

A tasteful assortment, suitable to the decoration of the Dining, Drawing-room, Library, and Boudoir, is uniformly kept, comprising Chairs, Tables, Pier and Chimney Glasses, Children's Drawers, Wardrobes, Carpets, Mattresses, and Bedding, at regularly fixed prices, corresponding with the wants or elegances of Household Economy, offered on terms with which none but first-rate houses can successfully compete.

Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained, on application, by any party who may be desirous to make special contract for any requisites for the commencement or completion of Housekeeping, coupled with suggestions essential to ensure comfort and respectability.

PRESENT TARIFF.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Solid rosewood chairs, French polished..	0 15 0	ea. to 1 2 0
Sets of eight mahogany ditto	4 4 0	.. 4 10 0
Sets of eight mahogany Trafalgar	4 16 0	.. 5 10 0
Gondola easy chairs (in leather)	1 8 0	.. 1 16 0
Langham easy chairs, spring stuffed....	1 1 0	.. 1 8 0
Reclining chairs, in leather, spring stuffed	2 0 0	.. 3 5 0
Mahogany lounging chairs, carved throughout, spring stuffed, in morocco, on patent castors	3 4 0	.. 3 10 0
Couches, with loose squabs, all hair	2 15 0	.. 3 15 0
Mahogany loo tables, French polished..	2 11 0	.. 2 14 0
Rosewood ditto, on pillars	3 10 0	.. 4 8 0
Rosewood chiffoiers, with carved backs and marble tops, 3 ft., carved	3 5 0	.. 3 10 0
4 ft. carved mahogany sideboard, with drawers and four doors, cellarets and trays, complete, French polished	4 12 0	.. 5 15 0
Mahogany dining tables, with sliding frames, loose leaves, and castors	3 12 6	.. 5 5
Mahogany bedsteads, with cornices or poles, sack or lath bottoms, polished	4 0 0	.. 4 15 0
Superior ditto, massive pillars, carved, double screwed, and bracketed round..	6 6	.. 7 15 6
3-feet 6-inch elliptic wash-stands, marble tops	2 12 6	.. 3 12 6
Dressing tables, en suite	2 5 0	.. 2 11 0
Winged wardrobe, with drawers in centres	8 10 0	.. 15 0 0
3 ft. mahogany or japanned chest of drawers	2 5 0	.. 2 15 0
Chamber chairs, with cane or willow seat	0 3 0	.. 5 0
Chimney glasses, in gilt frames, 30 by 18 to 40 by 24 in.	2 1 0	.. 17 0
Alva or Wool Mattress, 4 ft. 6 in.	0 16 6	.. 17 6

* Shipping and Country Orders promptly executed, and the customary allowances made in all wholesale transactions.—December, 1847.

JOSEPH LOADER'S Establishment, 23, Pavement, Finsbury, London, to whom it is requested, as a favour, that all letters may be addressed in full.

THE NICOLL, REGENT-STREET AND CORNHILL.

THE NICOLL.—This is the trade mark and distinctive title given to a Patented Paletot, or Outer Coat, which, though used as a warm winter covering, can at the same time be converted into a light Walking Paletot, by simply detaching a wadded interlining, and which can be again as easily attached at the pleasure of the wearer, who in both cases will maintain an unaltered and most gentlemanly appearance.

The material corresponds in durability and excellence with that of the celebrated Registered Paletot (6 and 7 Vic., cap. 65) of Llama cloth. The Patentees of the Nicoll being the Proprietors and sole originators of both garments, the same moderate prices existing in each, and they continue to be honoured with the patronage of their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert, Prince George of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, his Grace the Duke of Wellington, and all others distinguished in rank and fashion, the Court, the Pulpit, and the Bar.

RAILWAY TRAVELLERS will perceive great convenience in its Pocket Protector, which effectually preserves from loss the railway ticket, loose cash, &c., besides a peculiar comfort for night travelling, which must be seen and worn to be appreciated. There are Agents for the sale of the above patented articles of dress in all the principal towns throughout the United Kingdom and the Colonies, keeping an assortment ready for inspection. But any gentleman residing where there is no agent can promptly receive the Nicoll, &c., by enclosing (accompanied by a money order) the number of inches, or two pieces of string, describing his measurement around the chest and waist, to H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill, London.

PALETOT EMPORIUM, 37, POULTRY.

T. PARKINS (from Messrs. H. I. and D. Nicoll's, Regent-street) offers the PALETOT, at the reduced price of Thirty-six Shillings; and the Double-Mill'd Substance, at the reduced price of £3 12s. 6d. Every kind of overcoat kept in stock in Albert Capes and Chesterfields.

Black Dress Coats. £3 7 6 } Made from Saxony West of Do. Frook do., lined } England Cloth, patent finish, with silk

Also, the new Coat, the OXONIAN, in black and other colours, at the moderate price of Thirty-five Shillings. This is one of the most graceful garments yet introduced, and is much preferred by many to the Dress Coat.

SAXONY DOUBLE-MILLED BLACK TROUSERS, Twenty-five Shillings, and FANCY TROUSERS and WAISTCOATS in great variety, of the newest designs, cut on scientific principles, and an excellent fit guaranteed.

The "PALETOT EMPORIUM" is the only establishment yet opened giving the quality, style, and workmanship of the best west-end tailors, at prices so moderate that all purchasers see they have good value for their money. The low prices of fine Continental and Australian Wools, with other circumstances, offer facilities for carrying out this arrangement which will be so strictly adhered to as to satisfy the most particular customer.—Paletot Emporium, 37, Poultry, near the Bank.

N.B.—Catalogues of prices sent free, per post, upon application.

COCOA is a nut, which, besides farinaceous substance, contains a bland oil. The oil in this nut has one advantage, which is, that it is less liable than any other oil to rancidity. Possessing these two nutritive substances, Cocoa is become a most valuable article of diet; more particularly if, by mechanical or other means, the farinaceous substance can be so perfectly incorporated with the oil, that the one will prevent the other from separating. Such an union is presented in the Cocoa prepared by JAMES EPPS, homoeopathic chemist, 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London; and thus, while the delightful flavour, in part dependent on the oil, is retained, the whole preparation will agree with the most delicate stomach.

THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE KINGDOM FOR WRITING PAPER AND ENVELOPES is

WILLIAM PARKINS'S, MANUFACTURING STATIONER, 25, OXFORD-STREET (nearly opposite Soho-square), LONDON.

WRITING PAPERS and ENVELOPES are articles of vast consumption, and all parties who write are interested in knowing where to purchase them to advantage. Being PRACTICAL MANUFACTURING STATIONERS, and receiving all papers in large quantities in their rough unfinished state, direct from the mill, and cutting, pressing, and packing them on our own premises, enables us to give better articles, and charge lower prices than other stationers, few of whom are manufacturers. That parties who live at a distance may have the benefit of our system of business, we have arranged a list of prices, with a number to each sort of paper, &c. (which are sealed up in quarter-ream packets, and can be had at the same price as at per ream.)

Also, a SAMPLE PACKET of STATIONERY, containing upwards of THIRTY different sorts of Paper and Envelopes, each marked in pencil with a number corresponding with one in an accompanying List, by which arrangement all orders can be given and executed with facility. Price 6d., or sent free by post on receipt of twelve stamps.

As the prices are unusually low, "credit cannot be given," but where the order exceeds £2, a discount of one shilling in the pound is allowed, or the carriage paid to the country if a remittance is sent with the order.

NEUBER'S IMPROVED LIQUID GLUE

is impervious to damp or heat, without smell, and equal, if not superior in strength, to any other Glue. It is used as a cement for wood, stone, marble, ivory, glass, china and earthenware, plaster models, for every description of fancy work, and for household purposes. It may be used at a moment's notice, and requires no preparation. Price, dark, 8s.; pale, 10s. per gallon; and in bottles at 6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d.

NEUBER'S IMPROVED WATER VARNISH is without smell, perfectly washable, produces an elegant and durable polish, and requires no preparation of size. Price, full body, 10s.; flat, 8s. per gallon; and in bottles, at 6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d.

Sold wholesale and retail by Messrs. NEUBER and WATKINS, Varnish and Japan Manufacturers, 4, Endell-street, Broad-street, Holborn, where samples may be obtained, or forwarded free on receipt of twelve postage stamps. Retail Warehouse, 76, Long-acre, two doors from Drury-lane.

N.B.—Respectable local agents are required for the sale of these articles in the provinces.

PATENT DESSICATED COFFEE.

JOHN RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has succeeded in making arrangements with the PATENT DESSICATING COMPANY (Davison and Symington, Patentees), for roasting Coffee. This principle is perfectly novel, being effected entirely by hot air; and has the peculiar advantage of improving the article both in colour, strength, and quality, preserving purity, richness of flavour, and all its aromatic qualities, whilst it excludes all burnt and acrid matter, which under the ordinary process invariably arises. It is recommended by the most eminent of the Faculty, as being especially adapted to persons of weak digestive organs.

TESTIMONIALS.

"Messrs. Davison and Symington, Gentlemen,—I have submitted the sample of coffee roasted by your improved process, left with me, to a careful chemical examination, and find it to be free from the strong, acrid, empyreumatic oil which gives to coffee, as ordinarily prepared, so much of its unpleasant flavour; and, doubtless, also its injurious effects on many constitutions; at the same time that it possesses all the fine aromatic properties unimpaired. It is also much more evenly roasted throughout its substance, and I consider a very great improvement on the old process.

"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,
"R. WARRINGTON, Chemical Operator."

"Dear Sir,—I have been lately using the coffee which you sent me, prepared according to your invention, and I am of opinion that it is softer, is better flavoured, and is better suited to persons whose digestive organs are weak; and hence, that it is more wholesome than coffee which is roasted in the usual way, and which is often burnt or acrid.

"To R. Davison, Esq. I am, dear sir, yours truly,
JAMES COPLAND, M.D."

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. Under

Patronage of Royalty, and the authority of the Faculty. Upwards of Forty Years' Experience has fully confirmed the superior reputation of these Lozenges, in the cure of Asthma, Winter Cough, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath, and other Pulmonary maladies.

They have deservedly obtained the high patronage of their Majesties the King of Prussia, and the King of Hanover; very many, also, of the Nobility and Clergy, and of the Public generally, use them, under the recommendation of some of the most eminent of the Faculty. They have immediate influence over the following cases:—Asthmatic and Consumptive Complaints, Coughs, Shortness of Breath, Hoarseness, &c. &c.

Prepared and Sold in Boxes, 1s. 14d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London; and Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine vendors in the Kingdom.

N.B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "Keating's Cough Lozenges," are engraved on the Government Stamp of each box.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

"Dover, February 25th, 1848.
"Sir,—Please to send to Messrs. Barclay and Sons for enclosure another dozen of your excellent Cough Lozenges. Having lately had a severe attack of influenza, attended with violent cough for five days, preventing my lying down in bed, I made trial of your lozenges, and am happy to say, with the blessing of God, they proved of the greatest service, and their use produced almost instantaneous relief. I give you this intelligence from a desire that others might also be led to make the trial. I hope they will experience the same result.

"I remain, yours truly,
"O. HAMBROOK."

"To Mr. Keating, 79, St. Paul's-churchyard."

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VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES, No. 169.]

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

COLD PIG UPON HEAVY SLEEPERS.

"Here Lethargy, with deadly sleep oppress,
Stretch'd on his back, a mighty lubbard, lay
Heaving his sides, and snored night and day;
To stir him from his trance, it was not eath,
And his half-open'd eye he shut straightway."

"WAKE me when you get up," is the request of many a man overnight, who, when disturbed in the morning, shows anything but gratitude. Reader, didst ever analyze the extremely uncomfortable feelings excited by the application of what is vulgarly called "cold pig"? The hour is long past at which you should have risen—and the restless, dreamy doze, rendered savage by the ill digestion of a hearty supper, which carried you through the earlier hours of your recumbency, has given place to a downright, head-over-heels, all-absorbing slumber. Presently, something, you know not what, drags you hurriedly through the region of dreams, over—and but just over—the confines of the territory of forgetfulness, and before your reason has had time to follow, your sensations hold you a struggling and most reluctant captive, on the hither side of sweet unconsciousness. There may be a sort of loose, nebulous, overhanging recollection that you invited, nay, urged this invasion of your helplessness, and a forced admission of the "duty in the abstract" of redeeming time from sleep. But *de facto*, and "under the circumstances," you feel yourself an ill-used man. Why, you did not get a wink till towards daylight—a slight mistake in your reckonings, but one not visible, as yet, to you—you have not half rested—you feel very unwell—and besides, you have a mysterious impression upon your mind, that something upon which your dreams ran has been left incomplete, which it is your right and your duty to sleep again in order to finish. All this, it is true, may be matter of laughter to you when you are broad awake—but until the last remnants of drowsiness have been dispelled, "cold pig" appears to you a very serious and disagreeable business indeed, fully justifying the utmost amount of ill humour.

Mr. Noel's "Essay on the Union of Church and State," has been to the evangelical clergy and laity of the Establishment, very much like a dose of "cold pig." The truths they hold imply a solemn obligation to prefer the spirituality of the Church to its worldly respectability. They have gone to rest on the pillow of the Union—and the time is long past when it behoved them as Christian men to have left it. The first sleep of conscience, probably with all of them, was troubled and fitful—for it is impossible that so heterogeneous a compilation as the Book of Common Prayer, gulped down without much thought, could be as easily digested. But conscience, like the stomach, will soon accommodate itself to the exigencies of its case, and after a period of restlessness, sink into profound repose. Alas! alas! the senses they had closed against the loudest knockings of Dissent, are now brought back to unpleasant consciousness, by one who slept on the same bed, and the drop-

pings of truth from Mr. Noel's pen, like water dashed upon the face of a heavy slumberer, have roused bad temper, but have not yet released conscience from its spell. There may be much that is undeniable in what he advances—a kind of abstract rightness in his conclusions—but of course it is felt that he is the culprit, they, the victims of his inconsideration. Hence, they do not reason, but complain—the response elicited is one of impatience—and, whatever these men would themselves have said at other times, when brought to bear upon their own case, is evaded, explained away, or denied. The treatment of Mr. Noel's book by the periodical press which represents the several parties in the Establishment, is, perhaps, one of the most vivid illustrations to be found of the damaging influence of the union, upon the religion of those who have yielded themselves up to its seductions.

The more pretending of these publications, including the *Observer*, the monthly organ of the evangelicals, maintain a profound silence. They seem to be aware that the more noise they make, the more likely it is that the possibility of prolonged sleep will forsake them. It appears to be their policy to feign continued slumber, and not even to evince the sensitiveness of Skrymir, who, when struck in the face by the rock-splitting hammer of Thor, rubbed his cheek, and said, "Did a leaf fall?" But the weekly prints have not been so self-content. The *Church and State Gazette*, albeit an advocate of large Church reforms, and, at times, loud enough in its complaints of things as they are, pours forth torrents of abuse on Mr. Noel and his book—and the *Record* labours hard to show that if religion in the Establishment is not just where it should be, it is a very unkind act to try and awake her. Hitherto, we have seen much uneasiness—but not a single indication of conscientious truthfulness. The tricks of controversy are played off without hesitation—tricks which men driving at an honest conclusion would scorn to sanction, much more to practise. Sentences torn from the context—quotations imbedded in comments which change their whole character and purpose—salient points carefully kept out of sight—trivial questions of doubt picked up, and magnified into importance—and all the discreditable arts by which sophistry attempts to "make the worse appear the better reason," convince us that "none are so blind as those that won't see." Again and again, as we have glanced at these reviews, the couplet of Dr. Watts has rung in our ears,—

"'Tis the voice of the sluggard—I heard him complain,
You have wak'd me too soon, let me slumber again."

We have no doubt that it is possible for the mind to pass into a state of irritation at the sudden and startling announcement of an unwelcome truth, analogous to that of the body, when incompletely roused from a heavy sleep. The prejudices are awake, but not the reason. There is an experience of discomfort, but no perception of a necessity for it. The men who rail at Mr. Noel, doubtless, think him both mistaken and intrusive, and can even justify to themselves some feeling of bitterness. The reason is, that the appeal which has sufficed to scare their churchmanship, has not recovered to consciousness and power their over-dosed Christianity. They cry out as if they were wronged—whereas, their greatest fear is lest peradventure they should be set right. Hence, they are neither calm, candid, nor charitable. Would they but open their eyes, delusion would vanish. This they are disinclined to do—and, accordingly, they are not aware how grotesque are the grimaces in which their uneasiness expresses itself. But onlookers see the case exactly as it is—and draw conclusions extremely unfavourable to the system which can so overpower its best advocates, that when shaken into momentary consciousness, they seem unable to say more than, "Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep."

The *North British Review*, the quarterly exponent of Free Church sentiments, is equally dissatisfied with Mr. Noel's book, but on grounds exclusively its own. According to it, Mr. Noel

ought to have chosen a middle path between the gross Erastianism of the English Establishment, and the wild radicalism of Dissent. Mr. Noel had too direct and simple a purpose to allow of his running after the idle theories of the Free Church leaders—theories invented to save their reputation. In truth, the speculative tenet of these worthies on the relation of the Church to the State is a marvellously barren one. We need not reproduce it—for it amounts to nothing but a saving clause, whereby the Free Church holds herself warranted in taking public money, if she can get it without any surrender of her independence. Meanwhile, the *North British Review* declines to argue the general question with Mr. Noel, which, perhaps, is the most prudent course it could adopt—and, to do it justice, although it does not rise to that moral altitude at which sophistry ceases to live, it appreciates the singleness of Mr. Noel's motives, the purity of his character, and the important bearing of his secession upon the destiny of Church Establishments.

To us, we confess, it is matter of no slight interest to watch the countenances of different religious parties, on receiving this memorable *Essay*. The gloomy silence of some, the virulent abuse of others, the obnoxious strain of these, the half-commendatory half-condemnatory criticisms of those, disclose to us the workings of the inner man, and show us, in each case, his precise whereabouts. The ultimate consequences of the publication of this work, will not be seen until after some years. We do not anticipate from it any immediate movement resembling the Scottish disruption, and we are far from desiring it. Indeed, we have almost ceased to desire great ecclesiastical changes brought about by ministerial combination. But we have not a doubt that a vast number of individual minds will be prepared by this book to sigh for the enfranchisement of the Church from degrading bondage—and we rejoice to believe that it will contribute largely to the formation of that public opinion which will at no distant period, abolish the union of Church and State, as easily and as thoroughly as it repealed the corn-laws.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

MEETING AT KINGSLAND.

On Wednesday evening last, a public meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held in the British school-room, Kingsland, which, like the other meetings of the Society held recently, was attended by an audience who filled the room to overflowing.

JOHN SCOBLE, Esq., having been called to the chair, opened the business in a short speech, chiefly directed to the bondage in which the clergy of the State-church find themselves placed. Among other instances, he mentioned that of a clergyman in his own parish, an evangelical man, who having to bury one of his parishioners who, in a spirit of inordinate pride, had deliberately committed suicide, stated the whole of the facts to his congregation on the Sunday previous to the funeral, and told them that although the law would compel him to use the ordinary form of service, his conscience revolted at the task!

The Rev. J. Cox, of Shacklewell, moved a resolution to the effect, that "a State-church is an unscriptural, because a mere worldly institution, and that while it obstructs the progress of religion, it at the same time inflicts grievous political and social injuries on the community." He remarked that a striking illustration of the nature and influence of a State-church was afforded by three passages in the first volume of Macaulay's *History of England*, which he read to the meeting. The first quotation described the position of ecclesiastical affairs in the time of Henry VIII.; the design of that monarch to construct a church which should differ from that of Rome only in substituting for the supremacy of the Pope that of the King; and the hardships which it inflicted upon the conscientious Reformers, such as Ridley, Hooper, and Jewel. The second passage portrayed the dependent and degraded condition to which the clergy were reduced during the reign of the Stuarts. The third extract related the persecutions resulting from the

attempts of the Government to secure religious uniformity in the time of Charles and James II. To the same influences, Mr. Cox continued, was traceable the ignorant and almost brutalized condition in which the people were found by Wesley and Whitefield. At the present time, the working of the system was but fairly exemplified in the diocese of Exeter—a semi-papist occupying the episcopal throne; the members of the Church appealing from him to the archbishop, and from the archbishop to the Queen, against the observance of the mummeries which had been introduced into its service; and a godly clergyman grievously harassed for refusing to comply with the requirements of his diocesan. It was a matter of wonder that every evangelical clergyman in the Establishment did not, like one of their number, pre-eminent for piety, break the yoke of bondage at any cost, and regain the liberty with which Christ made his people free [cheers].

The Rev. T. AVELING seconded the resolution. He referred to the service which had been read in all the churches of the Establishment on the previous day—commemorating the death of King Charles as that of a saint and a martyr—as an instance of the subjection to which the Church was brought by its union with the State. He could not express his regret that so few evangelical clergymen—about three thousand out of thirteen thousand, according to Mr. Noel's statement—were connected with the Establishment. Notwithstanding the good that might result, in their own immediate spheres, from their administrations, he wished there were none such in the Church of England, as they did but render tolerable an evil that, without them, must be destroyed. The reply of the archbishop to the application already alluded to contained the curious and candid admission, that differences of opinion never could be prevented by fixed forms of prayer or of belief; after such a confession, the advocates of State-churchism must consent to abandon one of their most favourite arguments. Mr. Aveling concluded a telling speech by appealing to Episcopalians to aid Dissenters in struggling for the emancipation of their common faith.

HENRY CHILD, Esq., moved the second resolution:—

That in the insidious extension of the principle of paying all sects of religionists out of the public funds, and especially in the avowed desire of the leading statesmen of all political parties, to endow the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood, this meeting finds the strongest incentive to a united and vigorous effort for the early and complete separation of the Church from the State.

Those who had long interested themselves in this question, knew that it had now assumed a new form, and taken an advanced position. It was formerly argued, that Establishments were to be supported because they maintained and propagated the true religion; but that argument was now generally abandoned, and it was contended, that for the sake of peace and right, all sects of religionists should be helped from the public funds. That argument was put forth in the discussions on State-education; and, still more prominently, on the introduction of the Maynooth endowment measure. Such measures could not be met with the cry of "No Popery," but with the protest, "No endowment." None but Anti-state-churchmen could consistently oppose Government grants for religious purposes. All who would resist this new and more dangerous form of State-churchism should join this Association, which not only claimed sympathy from its principles and object, but deserved the support it asked from the wise and judicious course which it had pursued since its formation, and by which it had disarmed prejudice, and rebutted every objection at first entertained against it. Ecclesiastical questions were becoming the questions of the age, and should be seriously dealt with by religious men. Mere politicians, looking at it in the light of common justice and sound policy, would object to taxation for ecclesiastical purposes as inequitable, oppressive, and odious; and their aid should be welcomed. But religious men—governed by conscience, and actuated by principle—regarding every act of life as a religious act, and especially one of such importance as giving a vote—were the men to be depended upon in so great a struggle, and the men whose aid would be found most earnest and efficient [cheers].

EDWARD MIALI, Esq., on rising to second the resolution, was received with loud cheers. He said: You have seen a man dressed in shabby genteel—a man who has fallen from a state of high fortune to a low condition, and has been obliged to carry his clothes with him [laughter]. You know what a ridiculous figure such a poor creature cuts—the fashionable shape of his coat presenting a very strong contrast to its threadbare texture; perhaps the elbows peeping out in order to ventilation; a vest, however originally gorgeous, somewhat faded by constant exposure to the light of day; and the whole surmounted by a shocking bad hat [renewed laughter]. You have observed how the gentleman now dropped down into the ranks of the common people, still endeavours to preserve his former habits, and is anxious to keep up his former appearance; but it won't do; everybody sees that a great change has passed over him, and that, whatever his intrinsic worth, his circumstances are greatly altered. Very like this is the position of the State-church [loud laughter]. It once went forth to the world clothed in very large and glossy pretences; claimed a divine right to the support of the nation, and to the aid of the magistrate, as the exclusive messenger of God's truth. There was something great, although very false, in all that. But it has all gone by now. The advocates of the church principle have descended to a much lower position. The age has become so far enlightened,

that if any man talked of the obligation of the magistrate to enforce truth by the use of the sword, he would only expose himself to the charge of a lack of brains; and the Church is obliged to suit itself to the altered condition of the times. It has come down to the low ground of policy; and the policy turns out to be, that it is expedient for Governments—especially where they rest on an aristocratic basis [hear, hear], to lay hold of whatever is strongest in the popular heart, and make it subservient to their own purposes. Now, in England, although there is not much uniformity of religious opinion or practice, there is a strong reverential feeling towards Christianity in the heart of the community. The Government wish to take advantage of this circumstance; finding they can no longer maintain their exclusive institutions by mere force, they want to take the religious teachers of the nation into their pay, and so render the whole population quiescent. I never heard this question discussed, but that the discussion implied this to be the object of State-pay to the ministers of religion. The principle is openly acted upon in our colonial administration; and it is evident in all the recent educational and ecclesiastical measures. I object to this on several grounds—first, on that of economy. Whenever you make the Government the centre for the collection and distribution of the public money, you find that a good deal of what goes up never comes down [hear, hear]. Why not spend our money ourselves? I object to it, also, on moral grounds. If, as a nation, we take more interest in great subjects relating to the general welfare, it is because the voluntary support of religion has deeply interested us in them. Let religion be given over to the care of statesmen—no longer dependent on the love and service of its disciples—and it would become the most sickly, feeble creature on the face of the earth. Conservatives, Whigs, and even Radicals, combined to recommend this for Ireland; professing a desire, not altogether insincere, to make restitution of what they had taken from her. But is it restitution to take from the people of this country, and throw it to the Irish clergy, as an atonement for the injustice committed by our aristocracy? Let those who have done the wrong make the restitution [loud cheers]. The Bedford family possess Woburn, and other goodly estates, once the property of the Catholic Church; to restore that, indeed, would be restitution [renewed cheers]. Let them take the tithes which have for ages been levied on the land of Ireland, and apply it to purposes of national good, as an atonement. Let them alter the tenure of land, that the people may find employment; and not seek to bolster up an aristocratic oppressive system by such a cheat as this, under the name of religion [loud cheers]. Mr. Miall concluded a long and very effective speech by calling on those who held the principles of the Association, to render it their support; remembering they were the trustees to God and to the world for the dissemination of the truths which he had committed to their charge.

The Rev. E. STALLYBRASS moved, and Mr. J. C. WILLIAMS seconded, a resolution commending the Association to the support of the meeting.

Thanks were then voted to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—The public meetings held in this borough have created no small stir among the advocates of State-churchism. Letter after letter appears in the Tory newspaper published in the town, by doughty champions of Episcopacy, which are most ably answered by Mr. Mathews, the esteemed General Baptist minister, who not merely acts on the defensive, making sad onslaught of the statements brought forward, but carries the war into the enemies' camp, demolishing their high-flown attachment to uniformity, apostolic succession, traditional authority, and all the rest of the dust and cobwebs of the State Church, in a thoroughly sweeping style, yet free from all bitterness, personality, or party feeling, of which, indeed, he is entirely incapable.

—STONEY STRATFORD.—An excellent meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held here on the 25th of January, at which Mr. Kingsley was present. There was a good audience, who were deeply interested in his address; and as the result, several new members have been enrolled.

LEOMINSTER.—A lecture in explanation of the objects of the Anti-state-church Association, and especially to call attention to the threatened endowment of the Roman Catholic priesthood, was delivered at the Assembly Room of the Lion Hotel, Leominster, by John Kingsley, Esq., B.A. On Tuesday evening, January 30th, the spacious room, holding from 400 to 500 persons, was crowded with an earnestly attentive audience; and the chair was courteously and ably filled by the mayor, Henry Rudge, Esq., M.D., who is a Churchman. The effect of the lecture was most gratifying, and although no chance is now left for any telling influence on the forthcoming election, there being no candidate in the field but Mr. Frederick Peel, an impression was made by the eloquent exposure of the evils resulting from the union of the Church with the State, not likely soon to subside. The Rev. Maurice Jones moved, and Mr. Edward Gould seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer. Mr. Kingsley moved, and the Rev. W. Bliss, of Kingston, seconded a vote of thanks to the chairman. Mr. Kingsley is to lecture again in this borough in the course of a few days, and in the interval he will be engaged at Ross, Kingston, and Ludlow.

ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.—(From a Correspondent.)—On Wednesday evening, the 31st ult., Mr. Kingsley delivered a lecture on the separation of Church and State, coupled with the Roman Catholic Endow-

ment question. The Assembly-room at the Swan Hotel was filled to overflowing by a respectable, orderly, and attentive audience, notwithstanding the efforts of Dr. Ogilvie, Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology at Oxford, and Rector of Ross, who went about the town and requested the shopkeepers to remove the announcement from their windows, a request with which many, fearing the injury he might inflict upon their little trade, complied. Churchmen and Dissenters gave earnest attention to the truths uttered by the lecturer, in a manner at once to interest, amuse, and instruct. Mr. Kingsley made out a very strong case for Churchmen to seek a reform of the abuses in their Church, arising from its connexion with the State, showing that neither their pockets or consciences were their own, but that the one must contribute in tithes and church-rates to support a pastor forced upon them, without any regard to their wishes, and often grossly unfit for the office; and the other can only be exercised as the State through the Church sees fit. The Rev. J. F. Buck, Independent minister, proposed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Kingsley for throwing so much light on a very dark subject. He had struck hard blows, but the case required it. He objected to that union because it engendered bitter feeling between Churchmen and Dissenters, and prevented good men from associating together as they ought to do for the welfare of the human race. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Mr. Byrne, a retired Dissenting minister, who deeply regretted that want of strength prevented his giving utterance to his sentiments on this important question. Nathaniel Morgan, Esq., a wealthy banker, and member of the Society of Friends, besides other gentlemen and ministers of the neighbourhood, were present, and the lecture and meeting, the first on the subject ever held here, far exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine, and all regretted that Mr. K. could only deliver one lecture. The ground has now been broken up. Let labourers diligently prepare it, and sow more seed, and the result will be most satisfactory. An efficient local organization is in course of formation to carry on the work so auspiciously commenced.

HALIFAX.—The third lecture of this season on the Separation of Church and State was delivered by the Rev. T. W. Ridley, New Connexion minister of this town, on Tuesday night, Jan. 30, in the school-room of Harrison-road Chapel. The attendance was good; and the audience listened with much pleasure to the sound and convincing arguments adduced by the lecturer, frequently evincing their approval by spirited applause. The committee are daily expecting to receive notice of the time, &c., of the visit of the London deputation, in order to make their arrangements.—From a Correspondent.

HATS OFF; OR, A PRIVILEGED CAP.—On Monday, the 29th ult., a number of people, chiefly Dissenters, accompanied the remains of a poor woman which were being borne from Milford to her last resting-place—the parish church-yard at Steynton, a village distant about two miles from Milford. The usual services at an interment having been read, and when the people were about to disperse from around the grave, attention was again directed to the clergyman, the Rev. W. B. Thomas, who, looking steadfastly on a man named Isaac Thomas, a member of the Independent church at Milford, thus gave vent to his pent-up zeal:—"I am astonished at you, Sir. Unless you know how to behave yourself becomingly in such a place as this, you had better stay away altogether. I am surprised that, during the service, you did not," &c. You shall learn the conclusion immediately. Supposing he had conducted himself with all propriety, the poor man scarcely knew what to make of this sharp rebuke of the would-be successor of the apostles; little dreaming, at the time, that he was—because he did not "take off his hat"—wounding so deeply the feelings of his vicar, and committing mortal sin. The pith however remains. The reverend vicar who detected transgression so enormous in wearing a hat on consecrated ground, while a commission divine by act of Parliament was so solemnly employed, as to deem it deserving of public censure, had not, on leaving home, forgotten that Boreas rudely blew, and, with proper precaution, had come to the ground provided for the emergency. On commencing the service, he quietly put on a black cap, which he wore during the whole of the service. Considering this fact in connexion with the rebuke just administered, the "crowd" declared they discovered some inconsistency in the parson; but, as is usual in such matters, many of the "crowd" only exhibited their ignorance by expressing such an opinion, for—the cap was consecrated!—From a Correspondent.

MR. NOEL'S SUCCESSION.—The New York Independent publishes an interesting letter from a member of Mr. Noel's church to the Rev. Dr. Patten, which contains several interesting particulars. It is dated November 24th, and says:—"To the regret of all his people, Mr. Noel is about to leave us and the Established Church. At the Heads-of-Families' meeting, last evening, he said:—

So many reports are abroad, that I feel it most proper to tell you the truth myself, although it was not my intention to have done so at present. Many of you must be aware, especially such as have read my tract upon the Free Church of Scotland, that I have long had doubts upon the propriety of a connexion between the Church and the State. I have struggled against these doubts, and have read the best writers on both sides, and more especially the Word of God, and being in a Proprietary Chapel I flattered myself that I had little to do with the subject; but I have come to agree with a writer, that a man is responsible for the sins of a communion to which he belongs; that he that doubts is damned if he eats, although others who do not doubt may eat, &c., &c.; and, therefore, I have determined

that I must leave you, this Chapel, and the Established Church. On Friday, I gave notice to Mr. Wilson and the chapel wardens that I should leave at Midsummer next. Until that time I shall continue among you, preaching the fundamental truths of the gospel; but until my labours terminate, my tongue is sealed as to any other reasons I may have for beaking off my connexion with the Church, or how I have arrived at them; for I remain in order to give you time to find a successor, and prevent the dispersion of the congregation; and it would be dishonourable in me to make use of the time in unsettling the minds of my flock. At Midsummer, I shall retire for a considerable time from all public duty, where I can study the Word of God in a manner which no pastor can do, if actively engaged with a flock. What I shall do after this repose, and to what communion I shall attach myself, is a subject on which I have as yet formed no opinion. I had hoped and expected to spend my days among my people, from whom I have ever received the most affectionate kindness, and from whom I shall part with deep regret. But the will of the Lord be done! I trust you will get a successor who shall be more faithful than I have been, and that during the seven months which remain, both you and I may be spiritually built up.

"The above is the substance of what he said, but I cannot carry his words in my memory. The meeting was heart-rending. Efforts were made repeatedly to induce him to reconsider the subject; and it was pointed out to him that nine hundred children would be scattered from our schools; from £700 to £800 a year in collections from various charities would be lost; societies for the relief of the poor broken up; and a very large flock scattered. He answered that we painted things too gloomily; that if feelings could be allowed to prevail, he would never leave us; but that duty was above and beyond everything; that the subject had been so deeply considered, it was impossible he could hesitate as to his course."

BRISTOL, NEAR KETTERING.—REFUSAL TO GRANT A POLL.—Some little excitement at present prevails in this place, in consequence of an attempt on the part of the votaries of Mother Church to levy a rate, under the following circumstances:—For some years past there has been a desire in certain quarters to have an organ in the church. Having recently been supplied with a new, and it is hoped, an evangelical curate, more strenuous efforts have been made to realize the object at heart, and the more as being likely to gratify him. The instrument has been procured by voluntary subscription. On Sunday last, a notice was affixed on the church doors, calling a meeting of the parishioners for Saturday, at three o'clock, P.M., "to consider the propriety of an alteration in the gallery, and other parish matters." On the day of meeting, it was whispered that certain expenses, to be incurred by the putting up of the organ, were likely to be allowed at this meeting. Several of the Dissenters, who were quite willing an organ should be put up in the church, provided that those who expected pleasure and profit from it would meet the expense themselves, and who never before attended a vestry meeting, met with their neighbours at the time appointed. The curate was voted into the chair, and lo! the first and only thing he had to propose was, a rate to meet the expenses of making room for the organ, and putting it up. This excited the indignation of many, and the Dissenting minister charged the curate and churchwardens with having acted dishonourably and deceitfully. It was moved by one of the churchwardens, that a rate of one penny in the pound should be levied on the parish, to meet the expense to be incurred. The Rev. Thomas Lord, Independent minister of the village, moved as an amendment, "that the expenses be met by voluntary subscription;" a mode of action which he mentioned was the only honest and Christian one. On taking the show of hands, there appeared—for the amendment, 17; against it, 20. Upon this one of the churchwardens, who had not consented to the counsel and deed of the other, demanded a poll of the parish, which was seconded by a deacon of the Independent meeting. This was refused; the curate and his friends asserting that the whole thing was settled. A poll was repeatedly demanded, and a day appointed to take it; but amid considerable confusion, the curate slipped out of the room with the minutes of the meeting. The pro-rate party consider the whole of the proceedings are rendered nugatory by the refusal. It remains to be seen whether the rate will be collected.

ARE CLERGYMEN SCARCE?—The late chaplain of the Loughborough Union having left the town, the Board of Guardians advertised for another, but have not had a single tender. At the meeting of the Board of Guardians on Tuesday week, a letter was read from the Rev. Henry Fearon, the rector of All Saints, Loughborough, offering to perform the duties, in conjunction with the Rev. T. Bunch, of Emanuel parish, till a clergyman was appointed. It was moved by T. B. Miller, Esq., seconded by Mr. Boyer, that the above offer be accepted. There was also read a letter from the Wesleyan, Baptist, Primitive Methodist, and Independent ministers, tendering their gratuitous services to the inmates of the Union, but their services were respectfully declined, only two voting for the proposition; viz., Messrs. Chapman and Woodroffe.—*Leicester Mercury*.

READINGS FROM BAPTIST NOEL.—The inability of many poor persons to get a sight of the admirable work of the Hon. and Rev. B. Noel, might be to some extent compensated for by the carrying out of the plan adopted at Newcastle-on-Tyne, by R. Burdon Sanderson, Esq., known as the author of the "Autobiography of an Obsolete Churchman," and who was the nephew, and at one time the private Secretary of the late Lord Chancellor Eldon. Mr. Sanderson, who resides at West Jesmond, in the suburbs of Newcastle, has a chapel in the town, in which he preaches; and on Tuesday evening,

the 23rd, he there commenced a series of readings from Mr. Noel's work, beginning with the preface and introduction, and accompanying the passages he had selected with lucid illustrations and confirmatory remarks. Having eulogized the spirit in which the work is written, and the clearness of the author's style, Mr. Sanderson dwelt for some time upon Mr. Noel's description of the various meanings attached to the word "church," and his definition of what it really intends in the scriptural sense. Having quoted largely from this part of the book, and commented upon it, Mr. Sanderson, by way of showing the similarity of the views entertained by different writers upon this point, quoted from an anonymous pamphlet, the author of which, however, he said he had no doubt was Mr. Beverley (of Beverley), whom he considered second to no living writer in the service he had rendered upon this question. In alluding to the application of the word "church" to buildings, Mr. Sanderson said, that out of this mistake had arisen the practice of "consecrating" the soil and the stones, which had been enforced in such a manner that it had become a wicked superstition. He then read a quotation from "Simpson's Plea for Religion," describing the state of the Establishment, the overthrow of continental thrones, and the privation of the temporal power of the Pope, in words which would apply almost literally to the present period. On this part of the subject Mr. S. remarked, that as surely as the Pope, who had added the power of a king to that of a bishop, and had his kingly power taken from him, so surely would our Queen, who exercised a spiritual as well as a temporal sovereignty, have that spiritual power taken from her. He also pointed out the assertion of Mr. Simpson (himself a clergyman of the Establishment), that the clergy were damning more souls than they saved, as the origin of Mr. Binney's assertion, which had exposed him to so much invective. The attendance was small, but there is no doubt of an increase on the next occasion.

THE MINISTERS OF THE STATE CHURCH IN FETTERS.—The *Standard of Freedom*, says:—"We have before us an extract of a letter written to a friend in London by a clergyman, not unknown to our readers, who has never taken the course which leads to preferment, and who now appears to look around him with amazement at the difficulties in the way of clerical usefulness. Is he not an ambassador in bonds?"

P.S. I have just returned from one of the parochial churches of this city, and my letter being still open, I add a few lines, to say how much I was grieved at the emptiness of the pews, which were not a tenth part filled, and at the indifference with which the curate read his sermon, scarcely ever lifting up his eyes from his written discourse. I have not been able to find the working classes in any of the ——— churches; and I went to this church this morning because I had heard that there was very large accommodation for them. I found, indeed, plenty of accommodation, but not the working classes. There were scores of empty benches, which would have seated from 500 to 1,000 persons. I entered into conversation afterwards with one of the congregation; and I believe, from his statements, that if there were an earnest simplicity and Christian sincerity in the clergymen who preach at this church, the working classes would fill those benches which are freely provided for them.

It is now a year since I gave up the living of ———; and I have for some time past, and never more than after the melancholy exhibition of this morning, greatly desired to have a pulpit of my own again, and a pastoral charge to which I could devote myself. For some months past I have been occasionally assisting clerical neighbours, but I should much prefer a pulpit to which I had been invited by the congregation, and on whose voluntary support alone I should rely. In such a congregation I should wish to establish the following self-supporting institutions:—1. A temperance society for all the members who would join it. 2. An educational society for the moral training and mental culture of all the children. 3. A provident society for the voluntary support of the poor and helpless members in their affliction. 4. A society for seeking perfect justice to the industrious classes, and for infusing scriptural principles into politics, and into our local and general governments. 5. A society for the entire reformation of the Church of England, and for the dissemination of true gospel principles at home and abroad. 6. A society for mutual improvement in the laws of health, prosperity, and the attainment of useful knowledge.

Being a clergyman ordained under the law, conscientiously obedient to the law, such congregation would, of course, be Episcopalian, and would probably be as much attached to the beautiful prayers of the Liturgy as I am myself. Should it please God to set before me an open door to such a sphere of exertion, I trust that my labours for twenty-two years in a country village, and the part I have taken in the great moral movements of the day, will have prepared me to enter into it with delight. The pleasure of returning to work will not be the less from the long rest I have had, and the abundant opportunities of accomplishing my desire to hear my clerical brethren, and to observe the order and condition of their congregations.

IMPORTATION OF CORN.—On Thursday, a virtual repeal of the duties on foreign corn took place, the existing sliding or fluctuating scale of duties being entirely abolished, and in their stead the following, merely nominal and fixed duties, being leviable on all sorts of meal, flour, and grain imported into this country; viz. By virtue of the act 9 and 10 Vict. cap. 23, from and after the 1st day of February, 1849, the following duties shall be charged, viz. upon all wheat, barley, bere or bigg, oats, rye, peas, and beans, the quarter, 1s.; upon all wheat meal and flour, barley meal, oatmeal, rye meal, and flour, pea meal and bean meal, the cwt., 4½d.; buck wheat, the quarter, 1s.; buck wheat meal, the cwt., 4½d.; maize or Indian corn, the quarter, 1s.; Indian corn meal, the cwt., 4½d.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL.—An interesting public meeting was held in the Baptist Chapel, Soho-street, on Tuesday evening, January 23rd. Mr. Stent occupied the chair, and briefly stated, that the intention of the meeting was simply that expressed in the handbill which had convened it. The church had invited him to the pastorate, and he had accepted the invitation. They wished him to be introduced to other Christians of the town, and to the other Christian ministers; hence they announced this meeting. It was in no sense what in the dissenting vocabulary is called a "recognition service." Representatives were present from the churches meeting in Pembroke-place, Myrtle-street, at Bootle, and at Birkenhead, and also from Dr. Crichton's, Presbyterian. Communications had been received from Dr. Raffles, Mr. Kelly, and others, giving sufficient reasons for their absence, and expressing their sympathy. Addresses were delivered on different questions connected with the progress of the truth, by the Rev. H. S. Brown, R. Johnson, Esq., Dr. Godfrey, Mr. J. Vickess, and J. Russell, Esq. It was the first platform meeting ever held in the chapel; but the general feeling was one of hope that the second would not be far distant. Mr. Stent is giving a series of public readings from Baptist Noel's Essay. The attendance encourages us to hope that the way for the more full exhibition of Anti-state-church principles is becoming more manifest, and their triumph advancing in this pro-state-church town.—*From a Correspondent*.

TWO-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE INDEPENDENT CHURCH AT WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK, AND ORDINATION OF THE REV. JOHN BROWNE, B.A.—On Thursday, February 1st, 1849, the following services were held at the Independent Chapel, Wrentham. In the morning, the Rev. W. Hopkins, of Southwold, conducted the opening devotional exercises; the Rev. G. L. Smith, of Halesworth, described the constitution of a Christian church; the Rev. J. Flower, of Beccles, asked the usual questions, and offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. James Browne, of North Walsham, delivered the charge to his son, from 2 Tim. ii. 15. In the afternoon, the Rev. J. Alexander, of Norwich, addressed the congregation from Heb. vii. 23, 24, making especial reference to the finished course of the late pastor, the Rev. A. Ritchie. The Rev. J. S. Russell, M.A., of Yarmouth, gave an address from Heb. x. 32, 33, in commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary. In the evening, the Rev. J. Rogers, of Rendham, preached from 1 Chron. xxix. 5. There were present, in addition to those mentioned above, the Rev. Messrs. S. Laidler, of Harleston; J. Waddington, of Bungay; G. S. Crisp, H. More, and J. E. Dovey, of Lowestoffe; C. Hickman, of Beccles; J. Pike, of Gorleston; and James Browne, B.A., of Homerton College.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.—Mr. C. Pedley, late of Rotherham College, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the church and congregation assembling in the Independent Chapel, Chester-le-street, commenced his labours on Sunday, February 4th.

WALLINGFORD, BERKS.—We understand that the young men attending the Bible Class of the Rev. W. Harris, pastor of the Independent church in this town, have presented him with a Bible, handsomely gilt, and bound in Russia leather, and bearing the following inscription in gold letters:—"Presented to the Rev. W. Harris, on the anniversary of his birthday, January 19th, 1849, by the young men of his Bible Class, as a testimonial of their attachment to his ministry, and of the high esteem they cherish for his benevolent and Christian efforts to promote their spiritual welfare and intellectual improvement."

SNUG PARTIES; OR, "TIS ALL IN THE REGIMENT."—The public has seen, with no little dismay, that still another Elliot has been quartered upon the public purse. Some may have supposed that the whole race had already been absorbed; but to show to what extent this has actually taken place, see the following statement, the detail of which is really pretty well for one family:—Sir Gilbert Elliot, first Baronet, appointed Lord Chief Justice Clerk. Sir Gilbert Elliot, second Baronet, appointed to the same office; had issue—Sir Gilbert, third Baronet; Robert, in the army; Andrew, Lieutenant-Governor of New York; John, Admiral, R.N.; Archibald, Admiral, R.N. Sir Gilbert, third Baronet, appointed—Lord of the Admiralty; Treasurer of the Chamber; Keeper of the Signet for Scotland; Treasurer of the Navy; had issue—Gilbert, first Earl; Hugh, Governor of Madras; Alexander, in the East India Company's Service; Herbert, rector of Wheldale, Yorkshire. Gilbert, first Earl—Viceroy of Corsica; Envoy to Vienna; President of the Board of Control; Governor-General of India; had issue—Gilbert, second Earl; George, Admiral, R.N.; John Edmund, Secretary of the Board of Control. This brings us to the present generation, for whose names, &c., see the army list, navy list, red book, pension list, &c. &c. With such examples carried through the aristocracy, we may well ask, who will refuse to become—A FINANCIAL REFORMER?—*Liverpool Mercury*.

DISHONEST INGENUITY.—Two would-be robbers tied a rope across the road between Lovington and Queen Camel: as a baker drove up in a cart, his horse stumbled over the rope, and the two thieves pounced upon the traveller from behind a hedge; but before they could rifle his pocket of £20 which he was going to pay to a miller, a gig came up, and they made off.—*Bristol Journal*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have observed in your columns an advertisement offering two prizes of £20 and £15 for essays upon "INFIDELITY," to be written by working men; the successful essays to be the property of the Council offering the prizes. Now it has very forcibly struck me, and numerous others whose attention has been arrested by the announcement, that it is NOT JUST, where such trifling sums are offered as prizes, to deprive the writers of all the pecuniary advantages to be derived from the sale of their productions. Where it is merely a bookseller's decoy and publisher's speculation, every one, of course, can understand the object; but when, as in the case alluded to, the proposition emanates from a religious confederation, and is directly designed to subvert a philanthropic purpose, it is not generous or equitable to monopolise all the profits accruing from the sale of the works. If not allowed to retain the copyright, at least a moiety of the gains ought to be enjoyed. If this evil, so frequently characterising the prize-essay system, be not speedily remedied, the system will soon degenerate into a mere lucrative investment of capital. For a time, at least; for it will soon be found that the best writers, calculating the hazards of the game, will not be found gullible enough to waste their time and gifts in pandering to the avarice of such speculators.

As several prizes are already announced for the best essays on a variety of important topics, and as others are likely to follow—probably from the success and éclat attending the "Sabbath Prize Essays"—it is important that the subject should be well considered by those eligible and competent to compete, and that an observant public should be allowed to express its impartial opinion. Respecting myself, I never have been, and never shall be, a competitor in such a work; and therefore my allusion to it cannot be imputed to selfish motives. That talent and merit, now hidden in obscurity, may meet with a generous and commensurate reward, is my sole object in calling your attention and that of your readers to the subject. I should be glad if some of your correspondents would express their opinion on the matter.

A TRADESMAN.

ARRIVAL OF THE REV. H. WILKINSON AND PARTY IN INDIA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have this morning received two numbers of the *Friend of India*, published at Serampore, under date Dec. 14th and 21st, 1848. I am very thankful to see in the former paper the arrival of "The Alfred," from Portsmouth, on Nov. 29th, from which place she sailed August 16th. My excellent friends, the Rev. H. Wilkinson and Mrs. Wilkinson, with Misses Buckley and Mills, are duly reported. This missionary party is destined for Orissa. Their arrival will be very opportune, as the rescue of more than a hundred victims from the Khurds, destined for sacrifice, has so greatly enlarged the missionary asylums at Cuttack and Bhamphore. They are supported by the liberality of the British Government, and may prove, with the divine blessing, highly instrumental in the civilization and evangelization of that part of Orissa.

I am, yours truly,
Burton-on-Trent, Feb. 2, 1849. J. PEGGS.

CIRCULATION OF MR. NOEL'S ESSAY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Permit me, through the medium of your columns, to suggest another to the many means devised for extending the circulation of Mr. Noel's Essay on the Union of Church and State; viz., the introduction of the work into every congregational library,—(a course which has been adopted by the committee of the library connected with the congregation to which I belong.)—by which means it will be placed within the reach of numbers who would otherwise be precluded from seeing it, and thus another channel would be opened for conveying information on the all-important subject of which it treats; and would doubtless be the means of stirring up many who are either ignorant of, or indifferent to, the great principles of Nonconformity, to lively interest in, and active effort on behalf of, the objects of the Anti-state-church Association. Those persons who have had the privilege of seeing your able review of the work, and also read the extracts from it in your valuable paper, will doubtless have had a desire created to see the work itself, the perusal of which cannot fail of convincing every unprejudiced mind of the injurious and pernicious influence of all Church and State connexion, and of the soundness and beauty of those principles which seek the entire freedom of religion from all State-interference,—principles which, being based on the all-prevailing greatness of truth, must ultimately triumph.

Yours sincerely,
N—n, Feb. 3, 1849. H. B.

STATE EDUCATION IN WALES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—One of the misfortunes of the obscure is, that they are compelled now and then to enter into petty details anent their own history. Your correspondent, "Observer," wants to know if "Mr. J. Rhys Jones, a Dissenting minister from Rugby, Leicestershire," be identical with "Mr. J. Rhys Jones, the Independent minister, of Kilsby, Leicestershire." Let me gratify "Observer's" very praiseworthy desire for information on this point. At Kilsby, an obscure, mudwalled, thatched village, in the southern division of Northamptonshire, and nigh unto Rugby, there lives now, and has lived for the last nine years, an humble, unknown Dissenting minister, of the Independent persuasion, and whose name is James Rhys Jones.

Dissenters have always maintained in theory the right of private judgment: I shall soon see whether they can tolerate the reducing of this theory to practice. With the rumours which may be current in Wales I have nothing to do. With my motives "Observer" has nothing to do; for them I am responsible to a higher and a more merciful tribunal. Does "Observer" understand Welsh? If he does, let me hope he has not forgotten the proverb which saith, "*Drwg ei hun, tebyg awall.*"

To "Observer" and his party, I beg leave to say, once

for all, that neither imputations, however groundless, nor insinuations, however malicious, nor threatenings, however swaggering, shall deter me from pursuing a course which I believe to be right. "Observer" and his associates have my full permission to scribble as much as they please, and in any style which may suit their taste and their fortunes: in the meanwhile, I will exercise myself unto action. This is all I have to say, and this is all I ever mean to say, on this matter.

Dear Sir, yours truly,
J. RHYS JONES.

Kilsby, near Rugby, Feb. 5, 1849.

MEDICAL REPORTS ON THE CHOLERA.—The fourth official circular of the Board of Health has just appeared. It contains two documents bearing on cholera, by the two chief medical superintending inspectors to the board, Mr. Grainger and Dr. Sutherland; the one being extracts from a report on the progress of the cholera in Hamburg and Berlin, by Mr. Grainger; the other an account of the measures taken for the suppression of the very serious outbreak of the disease that occurred at Dumfries. Dr. Sutherland sums up his experience, during a period of very arduous labours in the Scotch towns that have suffered most from the epidemic, in the following terms:—"The practical conclusion must be self-evident, namely, that the only means of dealing with cholera as a pestilence, is the immediate organization, in every locality threatened by the disease, of a staff of visitors, to go from house to house, for the purpose of discovering and treating on the spot the slightest diarrhoeal symptoms. It has been proved by melancholy experience, both in Dumfries and Glasgow, that neither rich nor poor will, of their own free choice, apply for medical aid until the time for its efficient exercise is either passed, or the chances of recovery reduced to a very small proportion. The premonitory diarrhoea is, in a large number of cases, attended with sensations rather agreeable than otherwise; the sufferer is lulled into a fatal security, and no alarm is consequently taken till it is too late."

A MEETING OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY, at which several hundreds of persons were present, was held on Friday evening, the 26th of January, in the British school-room, Perry-street, Somers-town, on which occasion W. Stroud, Esq., M.D., occupied the chair. After opening the meeting with singing and prayer, in an explicit and able manner the chairman stated his conviction of the great utility of this society's principles, and urged the importance of steady general co-operation, as the best means of accomplishing the great object which its advocates, in common with the intelligent portion of total-abstainers, desired, and deprecated every thing having the semblance of opposition from either party. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. H. Harrison, Dr. Hodgkin, Joseph Payne, Esq., B. Rotch, Esq., Mr. Reynolds, the secretary, and Mr. Hancock, deploring the extensive existence of the habit of intemperance, notwithstanding the combined exertions of this and other kindred institutions, and recommending also the continued and vigorous operations of the society, while relying on the Divine blessing to render its agency successful, in the amelioration of the condition of the unhappy victims of this demoralizing, ruinous, and soul-destroying evil.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY.—JEWISH DISABILITIES.—A few Members of Parliament and a large number of wealthy and influential citizens of London assembled at the London Tavern on Wednesday, to meet Baron Rothschild, and hear explanations from him of his position in relation to the representation of London. Baron Rothschild read a letter from Lord John Russell, making these announcements:—"It is my intention to propose, at an early period next session, a consideration of the oath which is now taken by all Members of Parliament, not Roman Catholics. The alteration will be such as will admit Jews to sit in Parliament. Before the meeting of Parliament I will communicate to you the exact nature of the provisions which I contemplate. You remind me, that when I saw a deputation in the autumn, I said with regard to the proposed measure, that I could give no promise that after its introduction I would press it forward through the House to the exclusion of other and perhaps pressing public business. I must maintain the same views at present; but I shall not fail to avail myself of every fair opportunity of forwarding the measure I shall propose." After explanation of his own conduct, and the policy of non-obtrusion which he had maintained, approving resolutions were carried; and the meeting pledged itself to strenuous exertions for the removal of Jewish disabilities.

EMIGRATION TO THE GOLD REGIONS.—On Wednesday week Peterborough was all excitement, from the appearance of two waggons loaded with people, consisting of men, women, and children, in holiday attire, who were preceded by another waggon loaded with boxes and trunks. This strange sight at this time of the year, led the townsfolk to wonder where the strangers could be going. It was at length ascertained that the travellers had stopped at the station, which was soon crammed with luggage, and that they were actually emigrating to the gold country of California, and had come from the neighbourhood of Spalding. It is stated that there are many from the same neighbourhood about to follow the example thus set.

A MILLER'S MAN has been killed at Whitstable, by the sails of the windmill striking him on the head. The sails are very low, and this is not the first accident occasioned by them.

A little boy has died from hydrophobia, at Jesmond, near Newcastle, a month after having been bitten in the nose and cheek by a dog.

FINANCIAL AND ELECTORAL REFORM.

(From the Manchester Examiner.)

On Thursday morning, a meeting was held at the League-rooms of a number of the gentlemen favourable to further reforms, who had been present at the Free-trade Banquet on the previous evening, for the purpose of considering the most efficient means for advancing the movement for Financial Reform, and an improved system of Representation. The meeting was attended by a number of the gentlemen, from various parts of the country, who had attended the banquet; and though the proceedings were not intended for publication, we may state that the general feeling was most decidedly in favour of a vigorous movement for a large reduction of taxation, and a reform in the representation. The following resolutions were passed, embodying the future line of policy to be carried out by the committee which was constituted at the meeting in the Free-trade Hall, on the 10th of January:—

Moved by JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., seconded by RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P.:—"That the resolutions of the meeting held in the Free-trade Hall, on the 10th of January, be confirmed and adopted by this meeting, which resolutions are as follow."

Moved by RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P., and seconded by ALEXANDER HENRY, Esq., M.P.:—"That this meeting resolves to co-operate with the Liverpool Financial Reform Association, and other bodies, in their efforts to reduce the public expenditure to at least the standard of 1835, and to secure a more equitable and economical system of taxation."

Moved by the Right Hon. T. M. GIBSON, M.P., and seconded by W. RAWSON, Esq.:—"That although a combined effort throughout the country may and will succeed in effecting a large reduction in the public burdens, yet experience has shown that economy will not become the rule of government, nor the necessity for continued agitation be done away with, until the taxpayers obtain a more direct and complete control over the House of Commons, by the amendment of our system of representation."

Moved by J. BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., and seconded by A. KAY, Esq.:—"That, whether with a view to the speedy success of the efforts now making to reduce taxation, or to secure, by means of a real representation, a guarantee against future attempts of Government to return to the present extravagant expenditure, the most effectual mode of proceeding is that adopted by the late Anti-corn-law League; viz., the extension of the franchise by the 40s. freehold qualification, and a careful attention to the registration in boroughs and counties; and the Chairman of this meeting is requested to take the necessary steps for the formation of an association to carry out this object, in conjunction with such constituencies as may be willing to unite with it."

Moved by HENRY ASHWORTH, Esq., of Bolton, and seconded by WILLIAM BAYLEY, Esq., of Stalybridge:—"That, in order to carry out the policy indicated in the resolutions of the 10th of January, it is resolved that an association be now formed, for the purpose of maintaining an efficient care over the registration of electors in boroughs and counties, and to promote the increase of the county electors by the extension of the 40s. freehold franchise."

Moved by HENRY FORBES, Esq., of Bradford, and seconded by WILLIAM BIGGS, Esq., of Leicester:—"That this association shall co-operate with the electors in every constituency where its aid may be necessary or requested, in rendering such assistance as may be practicable to local associations formed for registration purposes."

Moved by FRANCIS CARBUTT, Esq., of Leeds, and seconded by GEORGE HOPE, Esq., of Fenton Barns, near Huddington:—"That special attention shall be paid to the extension of the county franchise, by promoting the establishment of local committees and associations for that object, and by the diffusion of information among the people on the subject of 40s. freeholds."

Moved by ROBERT PLATT, Esq., of Stalybridge, and seconded by CHARLES E. RAWLINS, Esq., of Liverpool:—"That all persons who subscribe not less than one shilling per annum to its funds shall be members of the association, and that £10 be the highest limit of annual subscriptions."

Moved by FREDERICK SCHWANN, Esq., of Huddersfield, seconded by JOSEPH SCHOFIELD, Esq., of Littleborough:—"That all subscribers of £10 annually shall be members of the council, together with such other persons, being members of the association, who shall be elected by any vote of the council."

The more immediate object contemplated by this new Association, is to organize thoroughly the constituencies of the country, and induce general co-operation in the plan of county self-enfranchisement, by the purchase of forty-shilling freehold qualifications.

DISASTROUS FLOOD AT INVERNESS.—The wet weather in the North of Scotland has been attended by a public calamity at Inverness. Loch Ness was so swollen with water that a torrent poured out of it into the river Ness, and in its course through the city it swept away a handsome old stone bridge. The structure, which had stood from the seventeenth century, consisted of seven arches; and it was the only means of communication between the two portions of the town, with the exception of an old wooden bridge which was expected to tumble into the flood. The lower parts of Inverness were inundated, and people had to escape from their dwellings in boats. A number of other bridges have been destroyed. A substantial stone structure at Fort Augustus was swept away; the bridge of Oich, and several others about Glenarry and Glenmoriston. It seems that the mischief was caused by the Caledonian Canal having burst its banks at the summit level, and poured a flood into the river Oich. After the waters began to abate, a panic was created in Inverness on Saturday, by unfounded reports of further dangers to be apprehended from the canal: the people were reassured on Sunday by a letter from the canal engineer, which was read in the churches, stating that the peril was past.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

THE LATE DISTURBANCES.

In Paris, on Tuesday week, numerous arrests were made. All the assembled members of one club were seized, and it is said that evidences of a serious conspiracy were discovered. Colonel Forestier, of the National Guard, and M. D'Alton Shee, a Peer of the Monarchy, are compromised, and were sent to prison. The former has since been set at liberty. The latter has addressed a letter to the papers, denying that he was arrested while presiding over the club *La Solidarité Républicaine*, to which he said he never belonged. He also denied that documents such as those mentioned by the *Gazette des Tribunaux* were found at his house. One Lecointe was seized by some National Guards, to whom he boasted that he knew a person who would "bring down the President of the Republic;" he was examined and detained.

In the Assembly there was considerable agitation. M. Sarrans complained, in a speech full of exaggerated expressions, of the arrest of Colonel Forestier. M. Léon Faucher stated that Colonel Forestier had been arrested for making a seditious speech. He explained the reason of the great military display. The clubs were conspiring, and outbreak had been imminent; the precautions taken had alone prevented that outbreak, and upwards of a hundred arrests had been made. M. Léon Faucher quoted the words of a proclamation which he had issued, and with them again repelled the calumny which asserted that the Government wished to destroy the Republic. The Republic had no firmer supporters than the Ministers; the President had sworn to respect the Republic, and he would keep his oath. Such calumnies were lamentable provocatives to disorder. M. Marrast entered the tribune, and refuted another accusation preferred by M. Sarrans against General Changarnier, of writing a letter regarding the disposal of the troops to guard the Assembly, in which he refused to give explanations to the Ministers or the President of the Assembly. M. Marrast read General Changarnier's letter; it was so opposite to what M. Sarrans had described it, that a general hilarity was caused by the reading of it. The Assembly closed its sittings without apprehension for the night.

On Wednesday, both in and out of the Assembly, the prevailing feeling was one of mystification. Ministers were more openly accused of having "got up" the whole affair, and much exasperation was manifested by the Republicans "de la veille." No explanations, however, could be extracted from the tribune on the subject of the arrests; inquirers were referred to the proceedings in the tribunals, when they should commence; and the Cabinet obtained some advantages on divisions. The proposition of M. Ledru Rollin to impeach Ministers was rejected by 468 to 250; and that of M. Billault to appoint a committee for determining the budget of receipts was rejected by 397 to 390.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

The Paris *Moniteur* of Thursday announces that the Government had received reports from the provinces proving that the conspiracy defeated in Paris had extensive ramifications throughout France. Tumultuous demonstrations were made at Limoges, Maçon, Chalons-sur-Soane, and Strasbourg; at Marseilles the clubbists declared themselves in permanence, but were overawed by a military display. Arms and ammunition were smuggled into France by the North-Eastern frontier, and thirteen chests of muskets were seized at Troyes.

Writing on this subject, the *Times* correspondent says:—"I have it from the best authority, that the account given of the conspiracy in the *Gazette des Tribunaux*, and which I transmitted yesterday, is accurate. The hour appointed (I still cite the confirmatory assurances of the authority alluded to) for the collision to begin was 5 o'clock in the evening of Monday, and not 8 o'clock in the morning, as generally believed. The order countermanding the first one was transmitted at 2 or half-past 2 o'clock the same day. These orders, in the original handwriting of the Count D'Alton Shee, are, I am told, amongst other equally important documents, in the possession of the authorities. No other Socialist leader of importance, with one exception, has been arrested. One motive for issuing the counter-order was of much importance—namely, the indifference of the working people, and their refusal to take part in the combat; the other is not less so—the imposing attitude of the military force, and the majority of the National Guard. These motives are, it is added, also made apparent from the tenor of the documents referred to. Some apprehensions, moreover, existed with respect to the Garde Mobile, the great majority of whom, notwithstanding the expectations to the contrary—expectations founded on the partial discontent already noticed—showed a decided disposition to co-operate with the troops for the maintenance of order. What are familiarly termed the *gros bonnets de désordre* were to have joined in some short time after the hostilities began; but only one individual of note was to have first put himself at the head of the movement. I am willing to believe all that has been said in quarters most worthy of credit, relative to the conduct of the President in case hostilities commenced. He declared that nothing on earth would prevent him from flinging himself into the midst of the *mêlée*, either as a leader or as a soldier, in the cause of order. 'Qu'on me tue!' was the gallant reply of the nephew of the Emperor to the entreaties not to expose himself. 'Qu'on me tue!—

Et bien! on me tuera!' He would most certainly have mounted his horse, dashed amongst the combatants, and, I have no doubt, well earned his spurs in so noble a cause.

DEFEAT OF MINISTERS.

The committee appointed by the Assembly reported in favour of the simple rejection of the project of the Mountain for an inquiry into the conduct of Government in relation to the affair of the 29th of January, declaring, at the same time, that the explanations of the Cabinet were satisfactory, and entitled to the confidence of the Assembly. The debate on Saturday was on the question of the adoption of this Report. An amendment was proposed by M. Louis Perière, the editor of *La Siècle*, and a member of the Cavaignac party, proposing that the report of the committee be rejected, and that the Assembly declare generally that the tendencies of the policy of the cabinet are dangerous to the Republic. After a debate, attended with great uproar, the question of the simple rejection of the report of the committee was put and carried, by a majority of 407 against 387. Immediately after the adjournment the members of the Cabinet assembled at the palace of the President in the Champs Elysées, where they resolved, without a moment's hesitation, that they could retain their offices and persevere in the mission which had been confided to them, and a paragraph appeared accordingly to this effect in the *Moniteur*.

THE LAW AGAINST THE CLUBS.

The committee charged with the examination of the project of law on the clubs decided on Friday, by a majority of 9 to 6, that it would declare in its report that the project of law was, in its judgment, unconstitutional. However, two members of the majority, MM. Crémieux and Senard, making a majority of 8 to 7, joined the minority to present another project to the Assembly, declaring that it was necessary to modify the first decree made in July last. Almost all the committee, animated with sentiments of conciliation, and convinced of the danger of continuing the present law on the clubs, adhered to this opinion. They are only divided on the principle which should be introduced into the new law. Some would maintain the permanence of the clubs, but hedging them round with such guarantees as to render them innocuous; others would interdict their permanence, which constitutes them actual parliaments, opposed to the Legislative Assembly, and authorize these meetings to treat of special questions, like the public meetings of England.

The re-organization of the Garde Mobile terminated on Friday. All the chiefs of battalions of the Garde Mobile belonging to the army have received orders immediately to return to their regiments. They are to re-enter with the same rank they held on quitting it. It is said that the number of Gardes Mobiles who have not joined the new corps is under 3,000.

A letter received in Paris from M. Guizot announces his intended arrival here in March. It is added that he will retire to the department of the Calvados, and will not re-enter into public affairs.

The *Evenement* states that in consequence of the discovery of papers on the arrest of some anarchists, which show that an attack was intended on the house of M. Thiers, a company of the line is placed in the neighbourhood for its protection.

M. LHERMINIER has addressed a letter to the Minister of Public Instruction, resigning his professorship in the College of France.

On Thursday, the National Assembly rejected the proposition of an amnesty in favour of the insurgents of June by a majority of 531 to 167. Two other propositions to the same effect were afterwards rejected.

The weekly account of the Bank of France, published in the *Moniteur*, exposes the sufferings and difficulties which at present prevail amongst the commercial classes in the capital. The overdue bills have increased by 2,966,627f. The commercial bills discounted have diminished by 3,700,000f., and 5,000,000f. in the departments. The bullion in the Bank has increased by 7,000,000f. The bank-notes in circulation have diminished by 4,000,000f. The protested bills have diminished by 200,000f., and the balance to the credit of the Treasury has diminished by 1,500,000f.

ITALY.

Roman letters, of the 24th of January, state that almost all the Ministers had been elected to the Constituent by overwhelming majorities. Despatches from the provinces brought accounts that the elections were proceeding with enthusiasm; the Bishops in many cases leading the van. In some places, the magistrates having refused to convoke the colleges, the inhabitants had immediately formed committees and convoked them. This had been the case at Ferrara, Ravenna, Bologna, and Cagli. Although the examination of the votes was not completed, the results obtained up to that date left no doubt as to the ultimate election of Sturbinetti, Armellini, Galletti, Muzzarelli Sterbini, Mariani, Scisconi, Masi, Monteculi, Guenini, and Brunetti (Ciccersacchio).

Il Pensiero Italiano, of the 29th ult., under date of Gaeta, the 23rd, says that Count Marturi, the Sardinian envoy, had declared, in the name of his government, that all measures were taken to replace the Pope on his throne. He afterwards sent an order to Rome to close the legation at that city, and to Count Della Minerva to join him at Gaeta. Some disturbances took place at Florence on the night of the 27th ult.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 31st ult. publishes a protest, addressed to the Foreign Powers by M. Gioberti, President of the Sardinian Cabinet, against the violation of the armistice by Austria. After re-

citing details already published in the *Milan Gazette*, M. Gioberti continues:—

An iniquitous system of spoliation was organized under the name of extraordinary war contributions. A few unfortunate emigrants, guilty of having preferred exile to oppression, were visited with the most illegal confiscations. The Austrian fleet, notwithstanding the terms of the armistice and the formal promises made to the Ministers of the mediating Powers at Turin, began to seize the Italian vessels navigating in the Adriatic, and thus perpetrated an act of hostility and violence, contrary to the principle of the liberty of the seas. The Government, confidently relying on the generous mediation of England and France, has already forwarded a protest to those Powers against the manifest violation of the terms of the armistice, against that abuse of force on the part of Austria in visiting with spoliation and death persons who were protected by the most formal conventions and the law of nations, against measures unparalleled in the annals of civilized nations. The Government of the King now deems it expedient to address the same protest to the other Foreign Powers, and to declare that it leaves to Austria the responsibility of the fatal consequences that may result to Italy and the whole of Europe from the violation of the most sacred compacts and the illegality of its proceedings. Consequently, the undersigned President of the Council-Minister for Foreign Affairs, requests M. — to communicate the present document to his Government.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor arrived, quite unexpectedly, at Prague on the morning of the 29th of January, but returned the next day to Olmütz. It appears that, on the 24th ult., a grand council, composed of the Ministers, the general officers of the Olmütz garrison, and of several generals commanding in Austrian provinces, was held at the episcopal palace in the above town, in order to take into consideration the present alarming state of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. The Emperor presided. Numbers of Hungarians compromised in the insurrection have made good their escape to Paris. At the sitting of the Diet at Kremsier, on Jan. 29th, an important motion was brought forward by Deputy Thiemann, —that the penalty of death be abolished. None of the Ministers were on the bench, and the motion gave rise to a lengthened discussion, in the course of which various amendments were proposed on the original motion. On the original motion being put to the vote, it appeared that 308 deputies were present. The ayes were 197; the noes, 106. The following amendment was then put and carried:—"Punishment to labour on the public works, the pillory, corporal punishment, brand marks, civic death, and confiscation of property, may not be enforced."

The Imperialists continue their successes in Hungary. Count Von Wrba has been appointed commander-in-chief, *pro tem.*, in Hungary. Numerous troops are to be forwarded immediately to Italy. The fortress of Leopoldstadt has been taken by the Imperialists by storm.

NORTH AMERICA.

The steam ship "America," brings advices from Boston to the 24th ult., having made the voyage in eleven days and a few hours. The chief item of political news by this arrival refers to the opening of the Canadian Parliament, which was performed with the usual formalities by the Governor-General on the 18th of January, at Montreal. The Governor-General's speech was not of any very great importance. He stated that it is the purpose of the Queen to exercise the prerogative of mercy in favour of all persons who are still liable to penal consequences for political offences arising out of the unfortunate occurrences of 1837 and 1838. The restrictions imposed on the use of the French language are removed by an Act of the Imperial Parliament. The subject of the depressed condition of the commercial affairs of the provinces forms a leading feature of the Address. The support of common schools is also alluded to, and the expediency of setting apart a portion of the public domain, in order that the revenue derived from its sale may form a fund, the interest of which shall be applied to their support. The amendment of the existing Emigration Act was intended.

The mania in the States with regard to California, although now having lost its novelty, has not diminished in intensity, and the excitement throughout the Union is reported to be very great. As many as fifty vessels were up at New York for California. Large numbers of most respectable persons were departing from most of the States in the Union.

The proceedings in Congress were uninteresting. The Southern Convention had adopted Mr. Calhoun's manifesto. Since this matter has been in agitation, Mr. Calhoun's health has given way; he was very unwell, and, at the last accounts, dangerously. While the senate was in executive session he fainted away, under very alarming circumstances, and that body immediately adjourned.

The Mexican accounts still present the most deplorable features of turbulence and insubordination. Congress was to assemble on the 15th ult.

The Board of Health at Havannah had ordered a quarantine of twenty days on all vessels from ports infected by cholera.

The private advices from New York by the "America" are again of the most animated kind, the arrivals of gold from California giving a continual impulse to the stock-markets, and also to the import trade, the spring business in which promises to yield good profits on all well-selected articles.

The articles of agreement for the construction of a railroad across the Isthmus of Panama have been signed. The contracting parties are Messrs. Aspinwall, Stephens, and Channay, constituting the Panama Railroad Company. A grant of 250,000 dollars a year for twenty years to Messrs. Aspinwall and Co

is recommended. It is proposed to complete the railroad in three years.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

As an example of the rapid advance of New Zealand, it may be noticed that public omnibuses ply up and down the streets of Wellington.

JUNCTION OF THE BALTIC AND THE NORTH SEA.—The continental advances allude to a gigantic project, in contemplation at the present moment, which, if carried into effect, will have a remarkable influence upon the maritime power of Germany. It is to unite the Baltic and the North Sea between Kiel and the estuary of the Elbe. Without this communication, independent of the ports in the power of the Danes, namely, the Sound and the two Belts, the maritime power of Germany, it is mentioned, will never be what it ought. The execution of this work will be entrusted to the imperial troops, to be collected in large numbers in the duchies during the spring. Kiel is considered as singularly adapted for such a work, affording a ready vent to German commerce.

GERMAN BROTHERHOOD.—**PRUSSIA.**—A society is being formed in Berlin for uniting in one commercial union all the natives of Germany, scattered as emigrants in America, Australia, and all other countries of the world. It is called the "Cosmopolitan German Brotherhood," and has already from 600 to 600 members in Berlin. A systematic emigration and colonization is to be attempted; a treaty of commerce is to bind all Germans, wherever they may be, to consume, as far as possible, German manufactures; the profits of a barter trade with the German colonists is to be divided among the poorer members of the society.

LECTURES TO WORKING MEN.—The first of a series of "Lectures to the Industrial Classes," at the Stockwell Educational Institute, Stockwell-green, was delivered on Thursday evening last, by Mr. D. Thomas, minister of the Independent Chapel, on the subject—"Rights of the Working Man." The lecturer commenced by expressing his gratification at addressing, for the first time, an assembly of working men, in a building consecrated to them—not only a place of unsectarian instruction for their children, but a place of meeting for themselves. In addressing them as a distinct class, he did not for a moment regard them as an inferior class; on the contrary, he considered industry as conferring true respectability. He presumed that, though his subject was not a political one—for human rights were independent of human laws—yet it would have a political bearing; but he would avoid, on the one hand, indiscriminate condemnation, and on the other, unqualified approbation of existing institutions. We have received a report of Mr. Thomas's lecture, but regret that the large demands upon our space prevent its insertion. He went at some length into two subjects of inquiry—What were their rights? and, How were they to obtain them? For his own part, said the lecturer, he felt proud of belonging to a body of whom it had been said by Lord Brougham, with equal eloquence and justice—they had united the zeal of martyrs, the purity of saints, the skill and courage of distinguished warriors, in wresting the liberties of Englishmen from those who would have destroyed them. Mr. Thomas concluded an address characterised by much thoughtfulness and argument, and at the same time very forcibly delivered, amidst a renewal of the applause with which his remarks had frequently been received. In acknowledging a vote of thanks, he expressed his willingness to address such an auditory every week, if they would come and listen to him, on subjects unconnected with his religious avocation—an intimation which seemed to give much satisfaction. Lectures are announced at the same place by Mr. A. Stevens, the well-known peace advocate, and by the Rev. J. Burnet. We observe also that Mr. Thomas has commenced the delivery of a monthly lecture to young men, at Stockwell New Chapel. The first two, on "The Mental History of Religious Decision," and "The Moral Hindrance of Religious Decision," have recently been published, and from their style, as well as their suggestive character, are well calculated to benefit the class for whom they are designed.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN TRAINING SCHOOLS.—Another meeting upon this subject has been held at Stratford-on-Avon, in the diocese of Worcester, for the purpose of promoting the object of establishing an efficient training school for schoolmasters, in connexion with a middle school at Birmingham, the centre of the diocese, upon a plan explained by the Bishop of Worcester, Lord Lyttelton, and others, at a meeting, held upon this subject at Birmingham, Warwick, and Worcester. At this meeting addresses were delivered in support of this plan of extending sound religious and moral education; and the following resolutions were passed:—

That the circumstances and exigencies of this country call for increased efforts on the part of the friends of national education. That such efforts should mainly be directed to raising the character and qualifications of our parochial schoolmasters, and that this will be best effected by means of training institutions, such as that proposed to be erected for this diocese at Birmingham. That the recent Minutes of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education afford facilities for raising the attainments and condition of our schoolmasters, of which this diocese may advantageously avail itself. That the school for the education of the middle classes of the diocese, which is included in the proposed institution at Birmingham, affords an additional plea for its support, and for these reasons the exertions which have already been made in its behalf in the county of Worcester, call for proportionate efforts in the county of Warwick.

THREE LIVES WERE LOST on Saturday last near Leicester, by the falling of a quantity of bricks upon some destitute persons who had sought shelter during the night beneath them.

IRELAND.

FLIGHT OF LANDLORDS.—The *Limerick Examiner* states, that "no less than twenty Clare proprietors are about to sell out their estates and seek a home in another clime."

DISTRESS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY.—The *Limerick Examiner*, a Repeal paper, gives painful accounts of the increase of distress amongst the Roman Catholic clergy, some of whom, it is stated, are about to emigrate and join the American mission.

THE NEWTONBREA ROMANCE.—Fresh inquiries have strengthened Miss M'Veagh's claim to be considered a heroine. The story of her having purchased blood, as Bardolph pricked his nose with spear-grass, to simulate evidence of a sanguinary fray, and of her having bought a cap of an old clothesman and riddled it with shot, is, according to the *Belfast Chronicle*, nothing less than the result of a Catholic plot against the veracity of the damsel because she and her family are Protestants.

THE WRIT OF ERROR.—On Thursday, Mr. Kemmis, Crown Solicitor, gave notice to the solicitors for Messrs. O'Brien, M'Manus, and O'Donohue, that, during the course of this day the writs of error to the House of Lords would be signed, sealed, and ready to be issued from the Writ Office of the Court of Chancery. Mr. Meagher, it appears, does not mean to appeal. His own funds are totally exhausted, and he declines all offers of pecuniary assistance, although urgently pressed on him by his family and friends.

EMIGRATION.—The spring season having set in, there is every reason to anticipate a tide of emigration far more extensive than has ever yet been witnessed, and which will preclude the necessity of any intervention on the part of Government to forward the onward movement. The great drain will be from the southern counties, where gentle and simple are preparing to fly from the land of their birth to the shores of America. Of the former class, I understand that in the county of Tipperary alone numbers of respectable families have "clubbed" their means, with a view of founding a colony in some Transatlantic region, where, by hard labour and a judicious use of their joint capital, they hope for better prospects than any that this ill-fated country holds out. As for the tenant-farmers, they are quitting by wholesale, vast numbers "voluntarily"—that is, abandoning their holdings, and giving "leg bail" for the rent due to the landlords, who, except in some peculiarly favourable localities, are supping brimful of the cup of necessity.—*Times Correspondent.*

THE TUAM BANQUET.—The *Freeman* devotes seven columns to the speeches delivered at the Tuam feast given to celebrate the return of Archbishop M'Hale from his mission of love to the Court of Rome. "His Grace," as lion of the evening, delivered an oration, which was simply an elaboration of the several replies to addresses of congratulation which greeted him on his passage from Dublin to the shades of St. Jarlath. On the present occasion, however, the repeal question was lugged in by the shoulders, only, it would seem, to draw from the speaker a sort of tacit admission that that game was well nigh up, as not being "yet sufficiently near or practicable," and in lieu thereof, he recommended the people to demand tenant-right, adding:—

Let desolating landlords pay a certain tax for that land from which they drive out men to make room for beasts; let the surplus spoils of the useless Establishment that has so long encumbered and oppressed the country revert to its original and rightful trustees—the Catholic Church—in proportion as the present incumbents fall off, not a farthing of whose life-interest I should touch; let this sacred fund, thus accumulated, again be dispensed, as it was once, entirely in works of mercy and of education [cheers]. I will pledge myself that with this simple process, which, so far from involving injustice, restitution demands, you will see ere long the land smiling with the threefold blessings of cheerful industry, spontaneous charity, and religious, because a free and unrestricted, education [loud cheers]. Let the revenues of the Church be thus expended, as they originally were, leaving still and for ever the Catholic clergy to the voluntary generosity of their flocks [hear, hear]. You will soon get rid of the incubus, the amphibious colleges and poorhouses, with all the frightful proleptism and immorality that accompany them, and you will do more to benefit Ireland than all the poor-rates that are now collected—did I say collected?—nay, seized, like spoils of a hostile country, with all the array of military force, from the starving peasantry. But I will not say that whilst thus feeding and clothing the poor, and educating all classes, I could or would be willing to feed or maintain, in short, that countless horde of official paupers, the commissioners, and vice-guardians, and inspectors, and sub-inspectors, and bailiffs, and collectors, who are now swarming like locusts throughout the land; and, like those insatiable locusts, too, at once the harbingers and fomenters of misery, spreading and aggravating the famine which they pretend to be relieving, whilst they feed and fatten on the feeble frame of an unfortunate country, sinking by exhaustion into rapid decay, and becoming, as is the case in every such mortal crisis—becoming more numerous, and more ravenous, and more tormenting, as their victim approaches the last stage of decomposition [loud cheers]. I told you I would trace to its source this taxation for the workhouses. They are the ugly offspring of the Protestant Church, and the revenues of the Protestant Church should be appropriated to remedy those monstrous evils of physical and literary destitution which it has engendered [hear, and cheers].

MEETINGS TO CELEBRATE THE REPEAL OF THE CORN-LAWS have been held in most of the principal towns of Yorkshire and Lancashire, as well as in other parts of the country.

GRAND FREE-TRADE BANQUET AT MANCHESTER

A banquet on a magnificent scale, "to inaugurate free-trade," was given at Manchester on Wednesday, "that being the day when expired the last shred of protective duties on foreign corn." The Free-trade Hall, the place of the festival, was decorated with taste and splendour for the occasion. The number of guests admitted by ticket was 2,984—700 of them ladies; numbers paid a high premium for their admission, and a multitude were disappointed of places. The list of notable names, from all parts of England, occupies more than the space of one of our columns, and includes some two dozen Members of Parliament, and half a score of gentlemen lately Members. Besides those names whose appearance is a matter of course—as that of Mr. Charles Villiers—the name of Mr. James Wilson may be mentioned for his official position, and that of Mr. Bickham Escott for the steady rise of his Liberalism; there are also names of less prominence, such as that of Colonel Salway or Mr. Hardcastle, whose appearance among Manchester notables, we believe, has not been so much a matter of course. Letters expressing regret at compulsory absence were read from Mr. Joseph Hume, Mr. William Hutt, (who is compelled, by a painful affection of the eyes, to commune with himself in his chamber,) Mr. Horsman, (who would have set aside all engagements to be present if Ministers had intended to reimpose a five-shilling duty,) Dr. Bowring, with farewell good wishes, the Hon. Baptist Noel, Ebenezer Elliot, and Mr. Frederick Bastiat of Paris. Mr. George Wilson presided. The following letters will interest our readers:—

"Hornsey, January 10.

"Sir,—I beg you to accept my thanks for your invitation to the banquet of the 31st, but as I think the ministers of religion are not generally in their place at political meetings, I venture to return the ticket with which I have been honoured by the committee. At the same time, permit me to express my admiration of the moral courage and the patient energy with which you and your fellow-labourers have fought for a great national object, and to congratulate you upon a victory which is as beneficial to the country as it is honourable to yourselves. Allow me to subscribe myself, sir, your obedient servant,

"BAPTIST W. NOEL."

"Homerton College, January 26th, 1849.

"Dear Sir,—With my best thanks, I return the ticket with which you have honoured me. It would be, indeed, to me a very great pleasure to attend the banquet on the 31st, but I am not only precluded by the imperative duties of this house, but disabled by my extreme deafness. No instrumental aid enables me to hear a sentence that is not spoken close to the aperture of an ear-trumpet. But, in all our rejoicing and our hopes of progress in the same direction of justice, patriotism, and philanthropy, let us, above all things, never become insensible of our debt of gratitude to the Divine Author of all that is good, nor careless of the high privilege of persevering prayer for His blessing, without which success is impossible. I remain, dear sir, your obliged servant,

J. PYE SMITH."

"To George Wilson, Esq."

"Hargate-hill, near Barnsley, 17th January, 1849.

"Dear Sir,—Your circular of the 4th inst. reached here to-day, in one of my slow parcels from Sheffield. The state of my health prevents me from accepting your invitation. Besides, I avoided the fight, and ought not to share your triumph. Despair would sleep, though on a draught of poison. Thanks to you, however, I at length believe (but, like our opponents, though not for the same reason, believe and tremble) that I shall see one day of free-trade! The fault will not be yours, if we are yet to have confusion's festival. On the 31st, Richard the Great, or some one for him, has another deed to say a name will do—the "Curnel's."—I am, dear Sir, your ever thankful friend,

"EBENEZER ELLIOT.

"George Wilson, Esq., Chairman, Newall's-buildings, Manchester."

Grace was said by the Rev. T. Spencer.

The CHAIRMAN, when refreshments had been taken by the company, rose, and having briefly alluded to the letters of apology for absence, which had been received from Mr. Hume, Mr. Fox, Dr. Bowring, Mr. Porter, and others, said they had met to celebrate the repeal of the Corn-laws [cheers], one of the greatest revolutions in the policy of this country which had ever been brought about. Like all great associations, the League had its friends and its enemies. It had often been condemned for things it never committed. It had less to retract or to regret than any man could reasonably have expected [cheers]. The League had fewer sins to answer for than most great associations, and certainly it had no sins in politics to account for. He should be extremely sorry to think that the League had interfered unduly with the progress of other questions of public importance, such as the extension of the suffrage; on the contrary, he thought it assisted them. Indirectly, the progress of the League was favourable to every good measure which the country desired. He concluded by giving the health of "her Majesty the Queen, may her reign be long, prosperous, peaceful, and happy."

Mr. CHARLES VILLIERS responded to the toast of "the Free-trade Members of both Houses of Parliament." Mr. Villiers avowed himself an impenitent free-trader, and disclaimed any sighing for the sliding-scale. It had not been his fault that there had been a period of delay for transition. He recalled two curious facts. It was curious that during fifteen of the thirty months that a modified form of the sliding-scale has been in operation, the law has been suspended altogether. And this, also, was curious enough:—"I may mention that a year after I had made my motion for total and immediate repeal, in March, 1846, I happened one night to come into the House of Commons, and heard the Protectionist member for Dorsetshire (Mr. George Banks) make precisely the same motion in March,

1847." From June 26th to January 1849, 23,640,000 quarters of wheat were imported to this country; and also 2,716,600 hundredweight of flour, and 581,000 head of cattle. We have paid for all with our manufactures; and have at this time bullion enough and to spare in the Bank. There have been three startling instances within the last twenty years in which we have reduced our duties upon the products of foreign countries, whilst they have not relaxed the provisions of their restrictive system directed against us; yet we find that our exports to those very countries have largely increased. He meant France, Germany, and the United States. In 1829 we exported to France goods to the value of £491,381; in 1846 our exports had risen in value to £2,716,963. To Germany in 1829 we exported goods to the value of £4,470,000; in 1846 our exports amounted to £6,606,000. To the United States in 1829 the value of our exports was £4,800,000; in 1846 it was £6,800,000. None of those countries have relaxed the heavy duties they still unwisely, and for themselves most injuriously, maintain upon our manufactures; yet we have increased our exports, and it is clear that the only way in which we can pay for them is by our manufactures." But the force of example is telling in all these places. In France, since our corn-laws were repealed, the conviction of our sincerity has become general, and free-trade is far stronger in the National Assembly than it was in the Chamber of Deputies. In Frankfurt a great free-trade club has been formed, which includes sixty members of the Imperial Assembly. And the rising importance of the Western States in America is lessening every day the chances that the tariff can be maintained. Mr. Villiers urged the necessity of improving the physical condition of the people, before it would be useful or possible to obtain for them constitutional reforms.

It is the condition of all human improvement that the people should cease to be anxious about the amount of food they can possess themselves of: I believe that will be one of the consequences that will follow from a repeal of the corn-laws. I like not to prophesy—I have a mistrust of every prophet; but I do believe that one of the effects of the corn-laws will be, that we shall have bread both cheap and abundant; that we shall not be subject to those scarcities which have so often and so grievously afflicted us; and that the physical condition of the people generally will be improved. If I am asked where this abundance of food is likely to come from, I should say that it is as likely to come from our own soil as from foreign countries. I believe that agriculture, subject to the fetters of monopoly, withers and pines, just as much as any other branch of commerce. I believe that the removal of those fetters will be the date of great improvements in agriculture.

Mr. CORDEN, who was received with prolonged shouts of applause, next addressed the meeting. Often as he had had the honour of addressing meetings in that hall, he thought he might venture to say, that on no previous occasion had he seen an assembly so numerous, so influential, and presenting that singular quality of being literally a collection from all parts of the United Kingdom. He had had the pleasure that day of shaking hands with friends of the good cause who had come from the north, even from Haddington, in Scotland, and he believed from almost every intermediate county. He took the demonstration of such a meeting to be most important at that moment, because it was necessary, that not only in this country, but throughout the world, it should be understood, that those who began the agitation for free-trade, and those who carried it through, were now as staunch and true to their principles as they ever were during the conflict [cheers]. He saw many old friends of ten years' standing around him; they looked as determined, as unwavering, as firm as they did ten years ago, and he was happy to say none of them looked older: they were as united now as ever they were, and as unchanged as they were five years ago, and if they could succeed in putting down monopoly, when the monopolists occupied the citadel, he asked their opponents if they could succeed in restoring protection when the citadel was in the hands of the free-traders? [Cheers]. He did not say this boastfully, nor in the spirit of triumph, for he was anxious that there should be nothing in that night's proceedings to indicate for a moment that they were actuated by feelings of exultation over a fallen foe; but when he saw that other "individual," the Duke of Richmond [much laughter], a man who, however he might want discretion, talent, and what he called "pluck," wore a coronet, and was called "His Grace,"—when he saw him summoning together large bodies of the farmers of Sussex, whom he had endeavoured for ten years to hoodwink and bamboozle, and endeavour to make them believe that he could restore protection, they must endeavour to save the farmers from getting into bogs and mire in following such a Will-o'-the-Wisp, by telling them, that they in that hall, where they had beaten monopoly before, would take care that he should not restore one shilling of a protective duty [loud cheers]. He observed, that his Grace left his friends the farmers at Brighton, and told them he would go up to London and present their petition to Lord John Russell and Lord Stanley, and talk to them about restoring protection to the farmers. It was of no use going to men in power to talk about restoring the corn-laws. "We," emphatically exclaimed the hon. gentleman, "we are in power on the corn-laws." He did confess he did feel somewhat indignant at this barefaced attempt to delude honest men. He had had credit given to him for keeping his temper for seven years on this question. He could not keep his temper with humbugs. He wanted it to be understood, that in dissolving the League, they were not going to revive it for a fresh contest about protection; they

had done with that [cheers]. If the Duke of Richmond had sense enough to be a leader, he might have been able to perceive that there was something coming up against the Anti-corn-law League. It was not merely protective duties that were getting out of favour in this country, but, however strong or weak it might be at present, still there was firmly and gradually growing an opinion decidedly opposed, not merely to duties for protection, but to duties for revenue at all. He ventured to say they would not live to see another statesman in England propose any customs' duty on a raw material or article of first necessity like corn [cheers]. He questioned whether any statesman who had any regard for his future fame would ever propose another excise or customs' duty at all. For a man who had an eye to look abroad, and sagacity to understand the tendency of public opinion, to talk to farmers about getting back protection, was the grossest delusion that could be practised upon them. Instead of being bamboozled by their designing leaders, he would have the farmers look about them; consult with their own neighbours; state the grievances they felt, the difficulties they had to encounter, and set rationally to work to remove any impediments to their competition in agriculture with the whole world; and if those grievances lay in the form of game-laws, the want of better laws affecting the rights of landlords and tenants, or any local or general questions admitting of legislation at all, they would find that assembly and those whom it represented as willing to co-operate in getting justice for the farmers as for any other class of the community [cheers]. The only question which could arise now in the farmer's mind was this, how could he compete with foreigners? It was of no use talking of having a restriction put on the supply of food; he must compete with foreigners as others did. The people of Lancashire must spin and weave as cheaply as any on the face of the earth, and the farmers must raise their corn and cattle on the same terms. If any protection were pointed out and enjoyed by any manufacturers, he would vote against it. There must be no protection to farmers more than to any other class of the community. The farmers wanted a high price for provisions; but the high price of provisions was incompatible with the well-being of the community, and they must not protect the class of farmers at the expense of other classes of the population. They would find, taking the condition of the country in every aspect during the last ten or twenty years, that in proportion as food was high, and farmers had their way, the rest of the community suffered morally, socially, and in a pecuniary point of view; they could not, therefore, submit to a principle which, if successful, resulted in an increase of pauperism and crime, and every calamity that could fall as a curse on a country [cheers]. They must have food as cheap as it could be got on the face of the earth; they would allow of no impediment to the freest importation of that first and most necessary gift of the Creator. With this general declaration of their determination to maintain free trade in force, and their willingness to contribute in removing any burdens or grievances affecting the farmers, and the expression of their sincere hope, that the farmers would not allow themselves to be duped by those who told them they might get back protection, he left the subject. Having met for the first time as members of that great united body which had effected the emancipation of industry, he should feel the deepest regret at their separation that evening, if there was not something in the toast he was about to propose which gave him the hope that they should not separate after all. The toast he had to propose was, "Free trade and peace, the best guarantees of popular rights, the best promoters of national industry, and the most effectual means for the reduction of national burdens." If free trade and peace were united, they would have something yet to do before they had finished their work. They might consistently co-operate to carry out the second object in the toast. Having secured free trade in corn, they must secure peace also. He had no fear of war; he had not had for a long time. The nations of the world had all spent so much money in previous wars that they were too poor to go to war again [cheers]. What he wanted was, that they should reap the fruits of peace. They had not peace now; it was nothing but an armed truce; our warlike establishments cost us more every year now than a war cost us in the middle of last century: he did not call that peace. He could talk to them on the subject of peace in a very different spirit, and with a very different tone, to what he was obliged to submit to in an assembly to which he was going to-morrow. In that assembly, if one prognosticated peace, immediately he was taunted with anticipating the millennium; if he hoped for peace, he was told that it was quite wrong, and that everywhere there were signs of war. All this was said in a spirit of exultation, which was something rather difficult to account for; the vast expenditure on what was facetiously termed our peace establishment, created powerful interests in the country—they had to battle with them. The eighteen millions of money they spent on fighting men, made fighting men very fashionable in society. They had money to spend; they gave employment to people; they could form the largest, finest, and most fashionable clubs in London; they gave their tone to society, and could employ others to write for them. He wanted those excellent spirits who had been exerting themselves so long to accomplish a freedom of trade to get what they had not yet effected—a real peace. Notwithstanding all that had been said on that subject, he reiterated, that there never was a time when Europe was so predisposed to listen to advances made by the people of England on that subject as now. He was

very glad to hear that there were prospects of making some little progress in the right direction during the ensuing session. He would not expect too much. Leaguers were not accustomed to have great changes worked in one session, or one year; but the step to be taken next session was one in the right direction, and very different from the course which was attempted in the last session. This was a sign of progress, and the people in their different localities must unite, not only to put down the spirit of war, but to help those who in the House of Commons were prepared to bring forward measures to reduce our expenditure for warlike purposes [cheers]. With that co-operation, it would not require seven years to effect that reduction of expenditure which was necessary for the well-being of the country. We were now too heavily weighted, and it would be unbecoming a commercial, manufacturing, and industrious community to allow this waste and malversation of our property to go on as they had done. Speaking as a politician and man of the world, he stood there to advocate a large reduction in the expenditure of our warlike armament, and a long stride in the direction of the Peace Society. He had never said, in public or private, that he was sanguine that the nations of the continent would follow our example in a year or two; he had said, both in public and private, from the time he went on the continent to the present moment, that he believed it would take other nations many years of discussion before they would follow our example. He did not talk of revolutions; almost every revolution that had happened was justified by circumstances. He had heard Lord John Russell say in the House of Commons, that the nations of the continent were paying a heavy price for their liberties; but he said not a higher price than they were worth; they might fairly and logically connect the progress of free-trade institutions abroad, with the progress of pacific principles. Public opinion must be brought to bear on the Foreign Ministers, who must not be allowed to engage in treaties to involve us in liabilities without subjecting those treaties to a public discussion. The hon. gentleman concluded, amidst loud cheers, by declaring that the germ of a great revolution had been laid by the meetings in that hall, and that it would expand and circulate round the globe, while its influence would only end with time itself.

Colonel THOMPSON came forward, amid loud cheering, to propose the healths of the popular constituencies of the country which had returned Free-traders. The company he addressed was one of those bodies; they were prepared to lay the axe to the root of that tree which corrupted each man's domestic happiness—useless expenditure. Already the effect of these economic habits was felt. Only last night it was announced that the Lords of the Admiralty were about to take stock [cheers]. There was a hope in that. What might they not expect if this intimation of their opinion had such an effect? It was said that if they wished for peace, they must be prepared for war; the way to be prepared was, not to borrow of pawnbrokers to spend all you have, but to lay by for the time to come, if come it must. The last thing they heard from France was, that they were going to send 150,000 men back to their homes. In Heaven's name let England imitate the example, and leave a few shillings to fructify. Let them adopt in public that which they adopted in the management of private business. There was work for them to do. Agitation was healthful as well as dangerous; and he hoped they would be well prepared to set an example and to secure the blessings of universal peace.

Mr. BRIGHT was received with vociferous cheers. After alluding to Lord Ripon's introduction of resolutions, amongst which was one to the effect that it was expedient to lay heavy duties on corn, and that a bill founded on that resolution was passed within a fortnight of its introduction; he showed how great a work the League had undertaken, and now, when the League had triumphed—when the world bore witness to its success—there were men who slandered it. The hon. member then gave a succinct history of the progress of the League, from its earliest formation down to the publication of the celebrated article in the *Times*, announcing—he should not say the conversion of Sir Robert Peel, but his determination to repeal the law which some of his greatest political efforts had been directed to support. He hoped the cautious Mayor of Tamworth, who had refused Mr. Paulton the use of the Town-hall to lecture in, and the cautious hotel-keeper who would not let him have his public room, had read with satisfaction the able and convincing lectures which their celebrated representative had lately delivered to the Commons on the corn-laws. The hon. gentleman concluded by proposing the following sentiment:—"The free-trade struggle; may the rights it gained be saved for ever; may the power it developed be wisely used; and may the lessons it taught never be forgotten" [loud cheers].

Mr. MILNER GIBSON proposed the following toast:—"The agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of this country, whose welfare is best promoted by the removal of all legislative restrictions." He looked on protection as belonging to the same school of political doctrine as Communism or Socialism, and was glad to find that they were all alike to the English people. It had been avowed by the Duke of Wellington, that the object of the corn-laws was to keep the agriculturists in their proper position—that was, to put them over the head of the manufacturing classes. The repeal of the corn-laws was a triumph of the commercial spirit over the spirit of feudalism; feudal privileges and distinctions must give way before the advancing march of

civilization. Mr. Milner Gibson sat down amid loud cheering.

Mr. HOPE, farmer, made a brief speech on the evils of the corn-laws.

The CHAIRMAN proposed three cheers for the "good time coming," when a party of singers in the gallery sang Mackay's celebrated song, "There's a good time coming, boys," and, as twelve o'clock struck, the whole company rose *en masse*, and cheered most vociferously for several minutes, hats and handkerchiefs were waving, and the cheering was again renewed.

Mr. G. THOMPSON spoke the funeral oration of the corn-law, which had expired the day before, and congratulating the meeting that they had drawn their blades for a fresh and more glorious struggle. —The vast assembly broke up soon afterwards.

ARBITRATION INSTEAD OF WAR.—The night which witnessed the downfall of the infamous corn monopoly was most appropriately celebrated in Southampton, by the gathering together of one of the largest assemblages of its inhabitants ever held, to hail the movement now taking place under the leadership of that great and noble man who so successfully led on the forces of the Anti-corn-law League—Richard Cobden. The meeting was convened to adopt a petition to Parliament in support of Mr. Cobden's intended motion, early in the session, to promote the insertion, in all future treaties between this and other countries, of a clause binding each nation, in case of future misunderstanding, to refer the matter to the decision of arbitrators, instead of sustaining the present burdensome war system. The respected mayor of the borough (George Laishley, Esq.) readily acceded to the request to take the chair on the occasion, and the attendance of Edmund Fry, Esq. (as a deputation from the Peace Congress Committee of London), the Rev. G. Conder (of Ryde), and the eloquent Henry Vincent (now on a visit to the town), was ensured by the committee. These circumstances, jointly with the growing importance and interest of the question, caused, as we have already observed, an immense gathering of our townfolk, and at the hour named for commencing business (half-past seven) the large room was well filled, and in a short time became most densely packed in every part. At the time mentioned the mayor, accompanied by several gentlemen, took their seats on the platform amidst loud cheering. Amongst the gentlemen present we observed, in addition to those already mentioned, the Rev. T. Adkins, the Rev. T. Pullar, the Rev. T. Morris, the Rev. W. Yarnold, the Rev. J. Lumb, D. Brooks, Esq. (the late Mayor), Mr. Alderman Palk, J. R. Keele, Esq., J. Parsons, Esq., T. Falvey, Esq., Messrs. J. Clarke, jun., J. Lankester, W. Lankester, S. Payne, J. R. Stebbing, W. Westlake, R. Laishley, J. E. Lury, &c. &c. On the motion of J. R. Keele, Esq., seconded by Mr. J. Clark, the Mayor (G. Laishley, Esq.) took the chair. The Mayor, upon taking the chair, was received with loud cheers. He said that, although it was not his intention to address them on that occasion, he could not refrain from expressing his gratification at presiding. The object for which they were met together must commend itself to the heart and conscience of every man; the object was to substitute negotiation for slaughter, and arbitration for the sword [cheers]; in fact, to settle all national differences as speedily as possible in the same way as local differences would be settled, by arbitration. He would not occupy their time longer, as many other gentlemen, who better understood the matter, were present, and ready to address them, and he therefore called on the Rev. T. Adkins to move the first resolution [cheers]. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. T. Adkins, J. R. Keele, Esq., Rev. G. Conder, of Ryde, Mr. T. Falvey, Mr. Edmund Fry, Mr. Henry Vincent, and others. Resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting, together with a petition to Parliament, were carried unanimously with loud cheers. The immense assembly dispersed, giving three cheers for the Mayor, and three for Henry Vincent.—*Abridged from the Hampshire Independent of Feb. 3, 1849.*

ASYLUM FOR INVALID GENTLEWOMEN.—It is proposed to make an appeal to the benevolence of the public for the establishment of an asylum for a class of persons for whose wants no public hospitals, as such places are at present constituted, are adapted. This class consists of gentlewomen of moderate means, or who are dependent for support on their own exertions, and more especially of those in the country who find it necessary to visit the metropolis for medical treatment. The first step has been taken, and a temporary committee of ladies has been formed, amongst whom are Ladies Ashley, Canning, Erle, and Rolfe, Lady Caroline Stirling, and several others of rank and fashion.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.—On Thursday the comprehensive arrangements just concluded between the Directors of the French and English railways, for accelerating and facilitating the communication between this country and the Continent, came into operation. By them a continuous transit will be established, not only from London-bridge to Brussels and the Rhine, but, with the exception of the short sea passage from Folkestone to Boulogne, the express train will be enabled to work its way to Warsaw. These arrangements are the result of treaties that have been for some time in progress, but which the absence of political peace upon the Continent have hitherto tended to retard.

THE POWER OF INTEMPERANCE.—It drives wit out of the head, money out of the pocket, wine out of the bottle, elbows out of the coat, and health out of the body.

LAW AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

WILLIAM HENRY BARBER.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, the application of Mr. William Henry Barber to be restored to the list of attorneys and solicitors, on affidavits setting forth the circumstances of his trial for forgery in 1843, transportation for life, and subsequent free pardon, was referred to a Master of the Court for inquiry and report. The Master was instructed to inquire into all circumstances, whether connected or not connected with the original charge, which should influence a decision on the readmission of an attorney.

A PAINFUL SCENE occurred in the Exchequer Court on Friday. In the course of examining one of his own witnesses in a revenue case, Mr. Martin, Q. C. (son-in-law of the Chief Baron), put many questions which Sir Frederick Thesiger, his opponent, deemed irrelevant. Sir Frederick appealed repeatedly to the Judge, Sir Frederick Pollock; who replied, that "these questions were open to that objection [of irrelevancy] at first sight; but he did not see how he could interfere at present. Such questions were frequently put, and counsel always had the credit of having some object in view." After some continuance of the contest, Sir Frederick Thesiger warmly exclaimed—"My lord, I cannot but feel that my learned friend is allowed a discretion in this case, and in this Court generally, which would not be extended to myself or other counsel in this or in any other Court." On the other hand, Mr. Martin, it seems, understood the Chief Baron to have admitted that the questions were irrelevant; and adverting to the nature of the opposition made to him, he turned to the jury, declaring that he should probably never again hold a brief in that Court. The Chief Baron, in consequence of the insult from Sir Frederick Thesiger and the temper which had been shown, adjourned the Court till Monday; observing, however, that his words had been misunderstood by both counsel.

GORHAM v. THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—ARCHES COURT, Jan. 31.—In the case of Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter, in which Mr. Gorham claims to be admitted to his living on the ground that the examination forced upon him by the Bishop was not within the legal time of twenty-eight days, Dr. Bayford, on behalf of Mr. Gorham, said:—"This proceeding had been characterised as unusual, and it was so; but, if the proceeding was unusual, the matter which called for it was likewise unusual. It never occurred before in the history of the Church of England that a clergyman should be examined before institution by the bishop of the diocese in which he was already an incumbent, not for one day, but for fourteen days, and should then be refused institution. There was a material difference between the state of things as respected examination before and since the time of Lyndwood. The articles of the Church had been framed which were to be subscribed by a clerk, whose examination was, therefore, of less importance than formerly. The general right of the bishop to examine a presentee was declared by Lord Coke, who said it belonged to the bishop as ecclesiastical judge, to inquire into the fitness of a person presented to a living, and to refuse him if not *idoneus*; and the statute of *Articuli Cleri* enacts that the examination of such persons shall be by a spiritual judge only. So the matter rested until the canon of 1603, which reduced the period for the examination from two months to twenty-eight days, and beyond that time the bishop could not go. It had been said, that the time allowed to the bishop was a convenient time. But this was not an indefinite time; the time was defined by the canon. Again, it was said that the examination had taken place, and was *de facto* good. But the party expressly reserved his rights; nor could he waive them, inasmuch as the question did not concern himself alone; the patron's interest might be compromised. Under the circumstances, what occurred at the examination must be taken to be a nullity, and Mr. Gorham was entitled to be admitted." Sir H. J. Fust said he should not give his opinion upon this point until next Court-day.

THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.—Mr. Justice Erle, in the Bail Court, on Wednesday, granted on behalf of the National Land Company, a mandamus directed to the registrar of the Joint Stock Companies, commanding him to show cause why he refused to register the company.

THE TOOTING INQUIRY.—At the Central Criminal Court an application was made on Thursday to the judges presiding, for a postponement of Mr. Drouet's trial until the next session, the prosecutors not having had sufficient time to prepare their case. The application was granted.

NEW COURT.—THE THREATENING-LETTER WRITER.—H. J. Killerby, aged twenty, a compositor, was indicted for feloniously sending to Martha Ward, upon the 4th of December, 1848, in the parish of Newington, a letter, threatening to kill and murder her. The letter, which was put in and read, was clearly established to be in the prisoner's handwriting, and the witnesses fully proved the statement made by the learned counsel. Mr. Parry contended that although the prisoner was a most dangerous character, and one who ought to be prevented from being at large to again commit such acts, still he was not a being who could be held responsible for his acts, and could not be viewed in any other light than that of an imbecile. The jury returned a verdict of *Guilty*, recommending him to mercy on the ground that they considered him of a weak mind. The court resented the judgment.

COLONEL THOMPSON AND HIS BRADFORD CONSTITUENTS.—On Tuesday week a large meeting of the electors and non-electors of Bradford was held in the spacious Temperance-hall, for the purpose of hearing Colonel Thompson. Alderman Smith was called to the chair. Colonel Thompson reviewed the principal events of the last session. After condemning physical force demonstrations, he adverted to the events of the past year abroad. The people of France had exchanged their monarchy for a Republic. He did not wish to see that example followed in England, though he was desirous of having republican institutions grafted on the monarchy of England [applause]. Having defended the French people from the reflection cast upon them by the election of a Buonaparte to the Presidency, which, he observed, was considered by them a kind of victorious restoration of a family which had been driven from their throne by foreign bayonets—he said that the people of France, with few exceptions, were as peaceably disposed as the people of this country; and he argued that the peace societies would find that, though they might not realize the whole demand they had written down, they would yet gain 16s. in the pound [hear, hear]. After accusing the country of want of zeal on the question of slave-trade abolition, the hon. member concluded by requesting that questions might be put to him, as he was anxious to learn the opinions of his constituents; and he sat down amidst loud applause. Mr. Edward Hurley (a Chartist) asked why the Colonel had voted for the Irish Coercion Bill, and refused to support the motion for the liberation of Frost, Williams, and Jones. Colonel Thompson replied, that when such a measure as the Irish Coercion Act was brought forward in the House of Commons, there was no choice for a man like him but to say, "I am for rebellion in arms," or, "I am not for it." He could not hesitate which course to adopt, and he rejoiced that the Government had power to put them down without greater mischief. Why, the house had been on fire, and the flames had been extinguished with damage to only a little corner of a room [applause]. With regard to the liberation of Frost, Williams, and Jones, he was pledged to do his best to secure it, but Government were not likely to grant a petition presented at the point of the pike, because the concession would imply a defeat; therefore, he told the Chartists that they must set aside their physical force notions, and then he was prepared to go to the Minister and represent to him that, as seven years had expired since these men were transported, the clemency of the Crown might well be extended to them. Mr. Rawson (town councillor) asked whether the Colonel would support the separation of the Church and State. Colonel Thompson replied:—"I do think that, under existing circumstances, I shall. Two years ago, I think I should have answered in the negative; but I shall be able, I think, to show that I see reasons why the Dissenters have a right to demand it. I am engaged on the Dissenting side; and without wishing to damage any man in the Church in which I was born, I may go forward, and say I have good reason for what I am doing; and I was sent to do it" [loud applause]. Mr. Kennion proposed, "That this meeting is of opinion that Colonel Thompson's attention and votes in the House of Commons during the last session deserve the thanks of this meeting, and of his constituents generally" [applause]. Mr. Rawson seconded the motion; and Mr. Hurley proposed, as an amendment, that the meeting was dissatisfied with the Colonel's votes on the Irish Coercion Bill, and the release of Frost, Williams, and Jones. The Chairman put the motion, and declared it to have been carried by a very large majority. The gallant Colonel returned thanks, declaring, in reply to a question, his warm advocacy of a national system of secular education. The proceedings terminated about ten o'clock.

THE TOOTING CHOLERA CASES.—Another verdict of manslaughter was returned on Wednesday against Mr. Drouet. This second verdict was found by the jury who have been for some days investigating before Mr. Wakley the cases of the deceased pauper children removed from the asylum at Tooting to Chelsea.

SOUTH DEVON ELECTION.—This election will be fixed for the 13th of February, we understand. Sir Ralph Lopes will be proposed by Sir Trayton Fuller Elliot Drake, of Nutwell Court, and seconded by Mr. Stroud, we believe. We do not hear that any opposition is likely to arise, as since Mr. Kekewich has been withdrawn from the field, the endowment party have not had the courage to present another man.—*Western Times.*

POISONING.—A man named George Howe, a labourer, (whose wife had died some five weeks previous, under sudden and suspicious circumstances,) residing at Yarm, in Yorkshire, has been committed for trial on a charge of poisoning his child, an infant, 18 months old, by putting oxalic acid into its milk. A bottle in a sack in which there was a solution of oxalic acid, was found under the prisoner's bed, who, it was proved, had several times expressed a wish to get rid of his child, as he was prevented by its existing from marrying a female with £300.

REPRESENTATION OF READING.—It is rumoured in Reading, that a vacancy may shortly occur in the representation of this borough, by the elevation of Mr. Serjeant Talfourd to the judicial bench, in the place of one of the present learned judges, who is about to retire. Should such a vacancy occur, it is not unlikely that Mr. C. Russell, Chairman of the Great-Western Railway, one of the late sitting members, will again come forward as a candidate.

EDUCATIONAL DISCUSSION AT SWANSEA.

A public meeting, convened by the Mayor, was held at the Town-hall, Swansea, on Friday week, "for the purpose of affording William Williams, Esq., late M.P. for Coventry, an opportunity of explaining his new scheme, suggested in his recently published pamphlet 'On the defective state of education in Wales,' for establishing with Government aid a general college for South Wales, open to all denominations, irrespective of religious creed or opinion, with a department for the particular instruction of schoolmasters." Long before the hour of meeting the spacious hall was literally crammed with a most intelligent, respectable, and influential assemblage, embracing the leading members of every denomination in the town.

The chair, in the absence of the mayor from indisposition, was occupied by the ex-mayor, L. L. Dillwyn, Esq. Mr. MOSGROVE proposed the first resolution:—

That this meeting, convinced of the deep importance and necessity of extending education in Wales, invites all classes to co-operate in an effort for the establishment of a college for the education and training of schoolmasters for this country, open to all denominations, irrespective of creed and opinion.

Mr. R. AUBREY seconded the motion. Mr. BUCKLAND moved, as an amendment:—

That this meeting pledges itself to the promotion of general instruction, and more especially amongst the lower classes. It has no sympathy with any secular system, and deems it totally unsuited to, and at variance with, both the principles and feelings of the religious public in Wales.

Mr. WILLIAMS, who was received with much cheering, then addressed the meeting. He said that in consequence of the difference of opinion existing in Wales on the subject of education, no measure had been hitherto adopted by Government. He then alluded to the deficiency of education in Wales, which was deplorably deficient. Such a description as that given by the Commissioner of the schoolmasters of Wales, could not be applied to those of any other country. What were the means at present existing in this country? How many training colleges had they? One lately transferred from Brecon to Swansea, and one, in connexion with the Church of England, at Carmarthen. It was not in opposition to either of these he wished to carry out a scheme for education. He would readily assist either of them in distress—only let them show that they gave an efficient education. He would not wish to set himself up as the judge of that efficiency, but would leave the matter to his friend Mr. Jenkins. As soon as the Normal College provided means for the efficient education of thirty-five schoolmasters, next day he (Mr. Williams) would send them £100 [hear, and cheers]. Let them provide a college for the education of 100 schoolmasters, with the assistance which would be afforded them by the Government, or Parliament, or—as the gentlemen opposite called it—the State. Mr. Williams then referred to the objections of Dissenters to State assistance. During ten years he stood almost alone in opposing, on principle, the grant to poor Dissenting ministers, known as the *Regium Donum*, because it was for the support of religion; he never received encouragement from the Dissenters in his opposition. Which was most opposed to the principles held by the Dissenters—which was the most culpable—the reception of this money put in their own pockets, and which, in truth, was for the support of religion, or the receiving of assistance from the Government for the education of their children? [cheers]. He alluded to the fact that Dr. Vaughan, one of the leading men amongst the Independents, and the editor of the *British Quarterly Review*, first opposed the Minutes of the Committee of Council, not because he objected to State aid, but because he thought they were too much in favour of the Church. He had, upon further consideration, accepted them. After bringing forward a great mass of statistics in support of his views, Mr. Williams concluded by recommending them as conscientious men, anxious to fulfil their duties towards their families, to accept a portion of the taxes which they themselves contributed, for the education of their children.

Mr. G. DAVIES, M.A., Principal of the Normal College, then addressed the meeting, and entered into a statistical refutation of Mr. Williams's statement. In England, education is talked of as the panacea for crime, and the criminal statistics are looked upon as proofs of the want of education, and as the best argument for the adoption of a general system. Now, we have a right to expect that the gentlemen who hold such doctrines in regard to England, will not quarrel with the converse in Wales. The average of the committals in three of the counties of South Wales for the five years ending with 1846, was 1.05 per cent., whereas, in the next English county, it was 4 per cent. If, therefore, crime in England is a proof of a want of education, the absence of crime in Wales ought to be held as a proof of a high state of education. As a specimen of the accuracy of the Commissioners' reports, he mentioned that in one of them, seventy Sunday schools were entirely omitted in the list. In Wales, according to the showing of the commissioners themselves, the State-aided schools were the very worst. The speaker here read numerous extracts, referring to such schools, from the Blue Books, in which the most deplorable accounts were given, and the absurdest answers returned to plain and simple questions. The speaker then adverted to Mr. Williams's plan, and questioned whether the Committee of Council would grant any money for an exclusive system of education such as he advocated; and in confirmation of his views he read a correspondence that passed between him and Dr. Kay Shuttleworth on the subject, which we have noticed elsewhere. Mr. Davies's speech was lis-

tened to with great attention, and produced a marked effect on the audience.

Mr. W. H. MICHAEL then addressed the meeting, contending that a secular education (if such a thing really existed) tended to the propagation of the principles of infidelity, and read various statistics in confirmation of his views.

The Rev. Mr. KAVANNAGH, Catholic priest, next addressed the meeting, amid considerable confusion, in support of the resolution. He applauded the liberality of the Government, in looking upon all sects and creeds with an equal eye.

The Rev. J. RHYNS JONES, of Kilsby, then addressed the meeting; and, at the close of his speech, the discussion was adjourned.

The adjourned meeting was held on Monday, and the hall was crowded in every part. The Rev. D. Davies and the Rev. J. Rhyms Jones were the principal speakers in favour of Mr. Williams's plan; Mr. Howells and the Rev. W. J. Jones against it.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted the amendment and resolution to the meeting. The numbers for both were pretty equally divided. The Chairman said his opinion was, that the majority had decided in favour of the original resolution, but he felt considerable hesitation in arriving at a decision.

The Rev. C. KAVANNAGH then moved the appointment of a committee to carry out the original resolution, which was seconded by Mr. JONES, who entered into a further explanation of the Government scheme of education, and expressed his belief that Government would consent to interfere less with religion than it did even in the Minute of Council of July 10, 1847, provided Dissenters agreed among themselves in asking for a further modification of the Minutes.

Upon this, the Rev. D. EVANS moved, as an amendment, the thanks of the meeting to the Mayor, and to the parties who had got up this meeting. Mr. W. H. MICHAEL seconded the amendment. A show of hands was then taken, and the Chairman declared the resolution carried, although he wished it to be understood that he had great hesitation in arriving at a decision.

"We paid particular attention to the show of hands," says the *Principality*, "and were moreover in a favourable position to see the whole of the rooms, and have no hesitation in affirming that the amendment was carried by a decided majority."

LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—The eleventh of the series of fifteen of these popular concerts took place on Wednesday evening last at Exeter Hall. The marked satisfaction which this as well as the preceding performances have given to a crowded audience induce us to hope that there will be a second series. After this successful experiment it cannot be said that the English people are wanting in musical taste, or in their appreciation of the higher style of compositions. Mr. Stammers and his coadjutors are, equally with Mr. Novello, assisting in elevating the taste of a large class otherwise debarred from such instructive and refined amusement. The principal vocalists on the present occasion were the Misses Williams, Mrs. A. Newton, Miss Poole, Mr. Braham the elder, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. T. Williams, and Mr. T. Binge. The Misses Williams took part in ten songs, all of which were warmly applauded, and several obtained unanimous encores. Mrs. A. Newton and Miss Poole were well received. The singing of a duet by the veteran Braham and Mr. S. Reeves was the principal novelty of the evening, and excited much interest and enthusiasm. Miss Ellen Day, the celebrated pianist, made a very successful "first appearance." The concert was varied enough to suit the most exacting taste, but we observe that for this evening's entertainments a considerable accession of talent is announced.

BOLTON ELECTION.—The writ was received on Saturday, and the nomination is fixed for Wednesday. Sir Joshua Walsley's friends are sanguine as to success, his opponent, Mr. Bridson, holding no position as a politician, though respected as a private citizen. The present member for Bolton is a bleacher; and Mr. Bridson is of a rival house in the same trade.

THE PORTSMOUTH ELECTION.—Yesterday, the election for this borough took place; and, as was anticipated, the new First Lord of the Admiralty (Sir F. T. Baring) was re-elected without opposition.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE CITY OF LONDON.—At a meeting of the City Commissioners of Sewers, yesterday, it was resolved, after some discussion, that the salary of Mr. Simon, the newly-appointed medical officer of health for the City of London, should be £500 per annum.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, February 7, Two o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE MINISTERS AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

An important debate took place in the National Assembly on Monday. The subject was the much-vexed question of its early dissolution. M. Perrée moved the following order of the day:—

"The National Assembly, considering that the tendencies of the Ministry appear to it calculated to cause danger to the Republic, passes to the order of the day."

General Oudinot then deposited on the table a counter order of the day to the following effect:—

"The National Assembly, adopting the conclusions of the committee, and considering that the correspondence offensive to the Assembly has been disavowed by the Ministry, passes to the order of the day."

After considerable discussion, the Chamber divided on the question of priority between the two amend-

ments of M. Perrée and General Oudinot, when there appeared for the amendment of General Oudinot, 436; against it, 403; majority, 32.

A division then took place on the order of the day as proposed by General Oudinot, when there appeared for it 461; against, 359; majority in favour of Ministers, 102.

THE WAR IN HUNGARY.—The Hungarians, under Perczel, have crossed the Theiss, and advanced towards Pesth, so that Major-General Ostlinger has been obliged to retreat to within eight German miles of Pesth (about 38 English miles).

ITALY.—The *Bologna Gazette* reports that, on the 26th ult., the Swiss troops of the garrison, to the number of 2,000, had resolved to proceed to Gaeta. The authorities, and the Consuls of England and France, interfered, and prevailed on Colonel Latour to remain at Bologna. The names of the Roman deputies to the Constituent Assembly were published on the 28th ult., and celebrated by 101 guns and the ringing of bells.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

SUSPENSION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT.—In the House of Commons, last night, there was an Irish debate; but there was by no means a strong muster of Irish members. At five o'clock, Sir GEORGE GREY rose to move for leave to bring in a bill for the continuance of the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland for a limited time. He appealed, not only to the result of the trials in Ireland, but to documentary evidence, to show that the state of Ireland in July fully justified the Government in asking, and Parliament in granting, the measure of last session. The continuance of such a measure would be authorized by less stringent evidence, and the real question was, whether, looking at the spirit which still existed in those parts of Ireland which had been the scene of the late insurrectionary movement, the time had yet arrived to take off this restraint, and run the risk of a repetition of such a movement. He read a portion of the letter of the Lord-Lieutenant noticed elsewhere, and stated that all the evidence obtained by the Government tended to confirm the opinions there expressed. The wise and temperate spirit in which this extraordinary authority had been administered by Lord Clarendon afforded a strong argument against its denial; he asked it only for six months, during which it would be exercised directly by the Executive Government on its own responsibility.

Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL immediately rose, and after a long speech concluded by a somewhat singular amendment. It was that a committee of twenty-one members be chosen by ballot to examine such documents as might be laid before them, and to report whether in their opinion it was necessary to the tranquillity of Ireland that the Habeas Corpus Act should continue to be suspended. This was seconded by Mr. F. MEAGHER, and a volley of speeches from Irish members succeeded. Mr. F. O'CONNOR, Mr. ROCHE, Mr. FAGAN, Mr. H. GRATTAN, and Mr. ANSTAY, all spoke against the measure to much the same purport, and with no small expenditure of energy. Other gentlemen took part in the discussion. Lord JOHN RUSSELL followed, but went over much the same ground as Sir G. Grey. Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON prolonged the debate for a short time, in order to state his opinion, that no case whatever was made out for this measure. Mr. SCULLY said a few words as to the endurance of the Irish people, and then the House divided. For Mr. O'Connell's amendment, 18; against it, 221. Leave was then given to bring in the bill; and Mr. GRATTAN was understood to give notice, that he should move the call of the House upon the second reading.

CATHOLIC DISABILITIES.—A motion was then made by Mr. ANSTAY for leave to bring in a bill for the further repeal of enactments imposing penalties upon Roman Catholics, which was opposed by Sir R. INGLES, and after some observations by Lord ARUNDEL, Sir GEORGE GREY, and Earl NUGENT, unfavourable to the bill, Mr. ANSTAY declining to withdraw it, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the motion, 41; Against it, 43; majority against the bill, 2. The other orders being disposed of, the House adjourned.

A NEW WRIT was ordered for South Staffordshire.

ECCLESIASTICAL REFORM.—Mr. HOBBS put a series of inquiries relative to Church reform, and Lord John having had since Friday, to reflect, has somewhat given way on that important subject. He announced that in the course of the session he would introduce a bill, altering the constitution of the Ecclesiastical Commission, and providing for a severance of the episcopal and common funds. On the subject of cathedral establishments, he intimated that he did not intend to legislate.

Viscount PALMERSTON stated, in reply to Mr. Bright, that there had been recent alterations in the tariffs of Brazil, but that they would not take effect until the 1st of January, 1850, and that they had not been made in consequence of any measures of ours.

The House of Lords sat only for a short time last night, and adjourned till Thursday, after disposing of some unimportant business.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7.

We have a good supply of Foreign Wheat this week, but not much of other grain. The trade generally is very quiet this morning, and prices without variation.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 540; Foreign, 11,990 quarters. Barley—English, 1,760; Foreign, 1,300 quarters. Oats—English, 220; Irish, 100; Foreign, 880 quarters. Flour—English, 650 sacks.

From its extensive circulation—far exceeding most of the journals of a similar character published in London—the *Nonconformist* presents a very desirable medium for Advertisements, especially those relating to Schools, Books, Articles of General Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious Objects. The terms are low:—

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Post-office Orders, &c., payable to Messrs. Miall and Cockshaw.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. W.," Loughborough. We should like to see the document.

"W. E. S." We cannot discuss that question now, although his able letter might have tempted us.

"T. Lord." A rate for the erection of an organ is illegal, however carried.

"H. C. H.," Bristol. Having put him in communication with the party referred to, we must decline further interference. The tone of his first letter struck us, certainly, as uncourteous, because implying an abandonment of principle for pecuniary gain.

"A. B.," Manchester. We think with the editor—and have expressed as much, again and again, in other words.

"Fortieth Shilling." In type, but excluded for want of room.

The review of Mr. Noel's "Essay on the Union of Church and State," which appeared in our number for December 27, has, with the kind permission of the author and publishers, been thrown into the form of a tract, and may be had of Miall and Cockshaw for 1d. each (or by post 2d.), or 7s. per 100.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 1849.

SUMMARY.

THE wordy warfare of the session has begun. The debates on the Queen's Speech—a document usually concocted for the important purpose of putting a few sentences into the mouth of the Sovereign which shall say "nothing to nobody," and which this year achieved that object well—revealed, in both Houses, the temper of the opposition, and the limits of concession to the people contemplated by Ministers. In the House of Lords, as soon as the mover and seconder of the responsive Address had performed the task allotted to them, by dilating upon, or diluting, the few topics noticed by the Queen, Lord Brougham, always impatient to have the first word as well as the last if possible, began a skirmish against all parties—"one down, t'other come on." The Liverpool financialists were scolded in the tones of an inveterate shrew—the Protectionists, advised not to seek a re-enactment of the corn-laws—the Whigs, flagellated for their foreign policy. The soured political coquette of former days is, of course, most bitter against the most deceived and wronged of early admirers—the people. No language is too scornful, no misrepresentations too outrageous, no vituperations too verbose, when the popular will, as interpreted by popular leaders, is to be denounced—and here, as elsewhere, the strong current of reprobation is tinged with the colour of disappointed ambition, which constitutes the bed over which it flows. Lord Stanley led the opposition in the Peers. Under cover of a heavy attack upon the too liberal policy of the Cabinet abroad, he sought to recover some foothold for Protection, and, at the close of an able speech, in which he evinced his sympathy with continental despots, proposed an amendment, conveying to her Majesty's ears, in courtly phrase, their lordships' disapprobation of Whig policy in general—foreign, colonial, and domestic. The Marquis of Lansdowne defended his colleagues—but it is questionable whether his defence would have been successful if the Duke of Wellington had not most opportunely stepped in to the rescue—and even then, on a division, the majority in favour of Ministers was only two.

Mr. B. Disraeli led the Protectionists in the Commons—Mr. Grattan, the Irish malcontents. The former was as racy, as amusing, as discursive, and eke, as long as ever. He travelled over the same ground as Lord Stanley—evinced sympathy with surviving and reviving despots—sneered at France—rated the Whigs for succumbing to Manchester agitations—condemned the doctrines of free-trade—asked for reciprocity in place of Protection, which he seemed to think past all the chances of resuscitation, and concluded with an amendment precisely similar to that moved in the

House of Lords. Lord John Russell took up the glove thrown down by his dashing opponent, made one or two points effective, but spoke on the whole in apologetic tones, very unlike his curt effronteries of last session. Mr. Hume put in a word for Parliamentary reform, an amendment in favour of which he subsequently contented himself with recording on the minutes. Mr. Grattan's amendment, in relation to Ireland, having been disposed of by an overwhelming majority, that of Mr. Disraeli stood adjourned for further debate. The same weary waste of words as usual, stretching over a whole evening, until Lord Palmerston, in one of his cleverest, cleanest, happiest speeches, put his opponents *hors de combat* so far as his foreign policy was concerned, and fixed upon them the appropriate *soubriquet* of "the War Party." The vote which followed the discussion exhibited the weakness of the ultra-Tories or Protectionists in the House of Commons—only 80 members having supported the amendment. In one respect, the debate offers matter for congratulation. The strain adopted by Ministers this session approximated to that of Cobden and his colleagues last—and Lord John's cast-off clothes of high Toryism, were worn only by his Protectionist adversaries.

On Monday, several resolutions were submitted, with a view to expedite the progress of business in the House. They involved no point of serious moment, but a partial waiving of privilege in regard to the House of Lords, who are constitutionally precluded the origination of any measures, of which money clauses form a part. As to curtailing the limits of speech, few appeared to desire it. All complained, it is true, of the prolixity and repetitions with which the House is bored—but Mr. M. Gibson, who moved to restrict all speeches, except in certain cases, to one hour, as the *maximum*, was beaten by a majority of one-third present. The present fashion is as irksome as it is senseless. Mr. Cobden well remarked that the inordinate length of speeches arose from members having nothing particular to say. Just so. There are few cases in which a man may not do more justice to his subject in one hour than in three or four. But if indefinite length of speaking is to be allowed, endless repetitions of precisely the same arguments, and the same refutations of them, ought to be put down without mercy. As yet, however, the session promises no improvement in either respect—the debate on the Address exhibiting both evils as gross as before. At a later period of the evening, Sir W. Somerville proposed a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Irish poor-law, which offered an opportunity for an irregular conversation on the social wretchedness of that unhappy isle, and on the remedies for it within reach of legislation. The root of the malady has never yet been fairly exposed in Parliament—and, if alluded to at all, only cursorily. Why does not some member move for a committee of inquiry on the operation of the laws of primogeniture and entail upon the social condition of Ireland? It might afford him an opportunity of bringing out a budget of most startling facts.

We must not forget to note the extinction of the corn-laws on Wednesday last. Its *requiem* was sung by an assembly of three thousand persons at Manchester, in the words of Charles Mackay, "There's a good time coming." The speeches of Cobden and Bright breathed stern determination to grapple manfully with the "landed interest." The *Times* was shocked; so was Lord Brougham—and, indeed, the whole party who think with those rather variable politicians. For the present, however, the farmers are evidently following the very sensible advice of the leading journal, and instead of giving way to a general panic, and pouring floods of corn into the market, are holding over for a time. Hence, in the face of an immense importation on Thursday last of foreign grain, which had accumulated in bond, prices have risen, and will probably be maintained for the present. It would be useless, however, to conceal the strong probability, that they will gradually and permanently sink to a scale which can hardly be remunerative at the present range of rental, aggravated by absurd, restrictive, antiquated covenants. The new wine will surely burst the old bottles.

By the last packet from the United States we have fresh tidings from California, confirmatory of the most extraordinary accounts which from time to time have come in of the abundance of gold in that region. The district in which the metal is found, called "the placer," is now known to be two or three hundred miles long, and lumps of pure gold weighing one, two, sixteen, and even twenty-five pounds, have been met with. The rush for the "diggings" is unparalleled. Soldiers, sailors, Government officials—all desert their posts. Every soul is off to the "placer." Between twenty and thirty ships are now lying in the harbour of San Francisco, deserted by their captains, and without the slightest prospect of obtaining crews. Even the Governor, it seems, has removed his headquarters to the gold region. Food and clothing are, of course, proportionably dear—and, as to labour, it can scarcely be bought at any rate.

Government, at present, there is none—for there is nobody to administer it. The fatal loadstone attracts all comers. The ordinary pay of governors, judges, and other civil officers, allowed by the United States, will hardly compare with that given to salesmen and shop-clerks in California. How will this fever end? It is already developing itself in one sweeping, universal madness.

In Jamaica, serious differences between the Assembly on the one hand, and the Governor and Council on the other, are working towards a political reformation, whether for good or evil remains to be seen. The Import Duties Continuance Bill, providing for the cessation of revenue on the 15th of February, unless the expenditure was reduced within due limits, was found, when it reached the Council—a small assembly, composed of paid officials—to have been altered, either by error or design, to December instead of February, and in that shape was hastily passed. At the end of December, the Assembly determined not to meet, so that the old act was likely to die a natural death. This prevented Sir Charles Grey from giving his assent to the new one, and to obviate the difficulty, which would have left the Government *minus* cash, he prorogued the House, and called them together again immediately, when the "Continuance" bill was again passed, to the 15th of February. Mr. Whitelock, a member of the Assembly, published a letter in the *Dispatch*, in which he said:—"The Council passed the bill in the way they wished to receive it, and that one of the members was aware of the error." This the Council declared to be a breach of their privileges—seized the editor, and committed him to gaol "during their pleasure." His discharge has been moved for, under the Habeas Corpus Act, but refused. Considerable sympathy has been excited—and the constitution and powers of the Council are naturally canvassed with more freedom than they can profitably sustain.

Continental news is important only as it regards France. The government of the President, and the National Assembly, are at serious odds. The Red Republican revolution, which was to have been formidable, but which fortunately came to nothing, for a few days strengthened Ministers, and secured for them large majorities in the Assembly. A motion for inquiry, however, into the military demonstration consequent upon the alleged plot, was indirectly affirmed, in opposition to the exertions of the Cabinet. The President refuses to dismiss his Ministers from office—the Assembly persists in "declaring the tendencies of the Ministry to be dangerous to the Republic." It is plain, therefore, that matters are drawing to a crisis—a compromise has been suggested, and will probably be acceded to. Our Postscript will most likely announce the result.

AN EXTRAVAGANT HALLUCINATION.

JOHN BULL is an honest and well-meaning fellow, but it would be flattery to ascribe to him any great strength of mind. With many admirable qualities he associates some weaknesses that provoke laughter, if they do not ensure contempt. Of these, the most remarkable, and the most hurtful, to his own interests and usefulness, is his proneness to hallucination. He is, perhaps, the readiest and most satisfied dupe in the world. With one hand in his pocket, and the other grasping a cudgel, which he calls a walking-stick, he goes about, the perpetual victim of some egregious hoax. He pleases himself with the notion, that all his neighbours respect him—whereas, repeated intermeddlings with their private affairs have made his very name odious to their ears. He hugs the gratifying illusion that he is enlightened—and yet no one cherishes with so infatuated a devotion old and absurd prejudices. He thinks he possesses a free press—and yet those journals which daily lord it over him are, in one fashion or another, fed to promote any interest but his, and to do so entirely at his expense. But the strangest conceit of the old gentleman is, that Parliament is a representation of himself—an accurate reflection of his own mind—when the truth is, that they who constructed it never intended it to be other than a smoothly-working taxing machine, and the great majority of those who constitute it, seldom trouble themselves to ascertain what his opinions or wishes are.

Of this last delusion of honest John Bull, it would seem impossible to dispossess him. A hundred times over, the veil of political craft has been drawn aside, and all the machinery of what he persists in regarding as popular election has been disclosed to him. The whole process has been reduced to calculation—so many divisions of counties, and so many small boroughs, are shared among so many noble families—this number belongs to Government—that to the Church—here the seat is disposed of to the highest bidder—there, but only in a small number of cases, members are returned by the people themselves—the entire process, we say, has been calculated upon the *data* of facts, but seemingly in vain. He yet believes that he is governed by a representative body. You sum up results, but to no purpose.

You mark off sons of peers, or of ecclesiastical dignitaries, placemen, military and naval officers, notorious tuft-hunters, and others whose worldly means depend upon legislative jobbing, and you place before the eyes of John Bull a considerable majority of law-makers whose very subsistence hangs upon a large and extravagant national expenditure—but he is not convinced. He grumbles at the exhausting drain upon his purse—but he will have no essential reform of the House of Commons. He is governed by representation—and hence, he makes a virtue of necessity, and becomes almost a willing dupe.

Look at the proceedings of Parliament since her Majesty opened it on Thursday last! Glance at the direction of the channels through which the main body of discussion has run! Judge by what has not been said, as well as by what has been said—and say whether, on the whole, the people of Great Britain were much more deeply concerned in the general tenor of debate, than they would have been in a speech of Julius Cæsar! Do they sympathize with the royal butcher at Naples, or take to heart, as a grievous wrong done to them, the prevention of his barbarous warfare in Sicily? Are they anxious to build up again the lately prostrate despotism of Austria? Are they concerned in preventing a republic of United Italian States, or bent upon the restoration of the Pope to a temporal authority which for many centuries has proved an unmitigated curse to his unhappy subjects? Is the condition of European Courts a matter of such intense solicitude with them, that when summoned to deliberate on grave national affairs, they who profess to be the organ of utterance to the British people, should give prominence to such topics, to the comparative exclusion of such as pertain to interests close at home? "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." The debates in Parliament at the opening of a session, naturally express most fully what noble lords and honourable members feel most deeply. Well, measure them by this standard—try them by this test—and the conclusion upon which you are driven is, that Parliament and the people have scarcely an object in common—that the pervading spirit of the one, not only does not harmonize with that of the other, but is diametrically opposed to it—and that, whatever may be the wisdom or the patriotism of the two Houses, they represent nothing in the least resembling them out of doors. And yet John Bull persists in believing that the people have a house of legislation as well as the peers—and an article in the *Times*, written under the dictation of a West-end Club, or a few high-sounding sentences uttered by a Prime Minister, sends him away with the conviction that, somehow or other, the policy of Government is *his* policy; and that, expensive as it is, it is but fair that he should "pay for his whistle."

To speak the truth, although we certainly cannot profess surprise, we are bound to admit our deep mortification, at the pretended reflection of the public mind given to the peoples of Europe by our Parliamentary mirror. We are mortified that we should seem to them more interested in their domestic affairs than in our own. We are mortified that any ground for surmise should be given them that the heart of Great Britain cares more for the pride of monarchs than for the liberties of subjects. And we are mortified that matters of supreme importance in the estimation of at least nine-tenths of those who ought to be represented in the House of Commons, can be there dismissed with a passing allusion, or mentioned only to provoke a sneer. There is scarcely a nation in Europe that is not at this moment better represented than ourselves—whose popular legislative assembly is not in closer sympathy with the mind of the people. And for this radical defect there is no remedy but an extensive widening of our constituent basis. We have no objection, of course, to wrest, if possible, from Parliament as it now exists, such fiscal and administrative reforms as we can get. But we should imply a hope which we do not feel, were we to nourish in our readers any expectation of great ameliorations prior to the enactment of a new Reform Bill. Till the House of Commons is substantially and truly what it purports to be, the *People's House*, little permanent improvement can be anticipated.

Nothing serves more powerfully to obstruct this needed change, than the vague idea that we are already represented. Were we but duly impressed with the truth of the case, we should never rest until reality had been substituted for sham. It is not, of course, pretended that the voice of the country cannot be heard at all in the House of Commons, but evidence is abundant to prove that it cannot make itself heard, as it ought, with commanding authority. Having the machinery of representation, we suffer ourselves to be cheated into the belief that we have also the thing for which it was contrived. No mistake could be greater. Aristocracy may see its own face in Parliament—men of large property, the army, the navy, the bar, the bench, the Church, all, in fact, who consume what others produce, can find an echo of their opinions and wishes there—but the

nation, as a whole, including the vast body of producers, is not represented in the Commons—and the persuasion that it is, is a most extravagant hallucination.

PARLIAMENTARY PANTOMIME.

BROAD farce and pantomime are the theatrical luxuries of boxing-night, and the first night of the parliamentary "season" holds out somewhat similar inducements for an annual rush to the Upper House. We say nothing about the "new and splendid decorations of the interior," that add this year to the usual attractions—nothing as to the array of rank, fashion, and beauty—nor anything here as criticism of the Royal "opening address," but hasten at once with our notice of the re-appearance of our old friend, that great caterer to public amusement—Henry, Lord Brougham.

The curtain raised, there needed but the customary story, by way of introduction to the pantomime, and then—"Presto!" all the great heads occupying the stage disappeared, and in tumbled Harry, with one of his very best summersaults, and of course the usual exclamation, "Ha! ha! here we are!" Well, *there he was*, and if the series of drolleries with which he favoured his audience did not keep them in a continued roar of laughter, it was no fault of his, and we can only account for it by the gravity imparted to them by their court costume. We know there was occasionally "a laugh," but always raised (strange to say) at the wrong time, or on the wrong side of the mouth, and not sufficiently frequent to compensate Grimaldi's successor for his untiring effort to amuse. Our clown, however, need not despair, as (thanks to the reporters) his drolleries, if they do not reach the ear, will at least come under the eye of thousands quite able to appreciate them. Our own readers shall not blame us if they do not have a share of the treat.

One of the first things his lordship did was, to tag the following advertisement to the tail of her Majesty's speech:—

"An agitation, to use the popular expression, had been commenced in this country, in his opinion under very unhappy auspices, with very questionable motives, and for very unquestionable objects, namely, pernicious objects, commencing in the West Riding of Yorkshire, passing over the county palatine of Lancaster, enthroned—as its metropolis of agitation—in the town of Liverpool, with branches, subordinate capitals of agitation, in Manchester and elsewhere, and supported by the Chartist, or Radical, and pseudo-economical press of the metropolis."

It will be seen by the foregoing that none can travestie Brougham like Brougham himself, and that *Punch* may as well for the future let his lordship conduct his own exhibition. The Financial Reform Association could have had but little idea of their coming in for so large a share of his lordship's eloquence, on the very first night of the session; and none but he (albeit an enemy) could have described so soon, in such glowing language, the ramifications of their "agitation, to use the popular expression." For the benefit of having their operations announced with so oratorical a flourish in the House of Lords at the commencement of the Parliamentary campaign, they can afford a good hearty laugh at his lordship's 'cuteness in hitting so hard at their "questionable motives for very unquestionable objects, namely, pernicious objects!"

Judging by what fell from his lips, we conclude that his lordship next appeared with an enormous pair of very green spectacles on—his mind's eyes; for, after an amusing description of his loving "friendship for the principles of free-trade," he declared (no doubt with a comical countenance) that "the corn-laws were not repealed by the eloquence of the agitators out of doors or in Parliament, but by the Minister of the Crown, and by the Opposition of the day, of which he was a member!" In fact, it was Lord Brougham that repealed the corn-laws, and great as was "the all but unlawful agitation out of doors," it was but a very little thing comparatively, and quite incompetent to achieve what "the Ministers of the Crown, and the opposition of the day, of which he was a member," did! How funny, then, it must have been to see his lordship draw himself up, and hear him say, with the most tragic-comic grin he could adopt for the occasion, that, therefore, "he felt it incumbent upon him to take his stand in the outset against the agitation which had been begun against the landed interest," he having discovered that to be one of the "pernicious objects" of the agitation "enthroned" in the town of Liverpool! Here, surely, is occasion for another hearty laugh from the Reform Association; at all events, if they only believe in the testimony of Lord Brougham, as to who repealed the corn-laws, and continue at work in Liverpool, and their "subordinate capitals of agitation," they may look forward to the time when Harry will make another summersault, and tumble to the feet of the Queen with Cobden's budget in his hand, to "beg the favour of her Majesty's signature!"

In the meantime we may just glance at the next part of the inimitable performances under notice, which we may entitle, "Frolic with figures;" for

his lordship had found that "people were misled into the belief that *no taxes* were levied upon the great lord's estates, while they were imposed upon the widow and orphan;" and he proceeded to show that all the talk about the aristocracy being exempted from the legacy-duty, and having no burdens to bear, was mere moonshine! We commend Mr. Cobden and Mr. Hume to his figures of arithmetic, and the people at large to his figures of speech.

"They were told that if a man died leaving personal property of the value of £20,000, the aristocracy required that £2,000 should be paid for legacy-duty. The aristocracy did no such thing. They only ordered that if the property was given to a stranger this amount should be paid; if it was given to a wife, nothing at all was required; if to a child, 1 per cent.; and if to relations, 2, 3, or 4 per cent. He found that just one-sixth of the whole amount of the legacy-duty paid was taken at the rate of 10 per cent."

His lordship didn't go quite so far as to say that the landed interest was *not exempt* from legacy-duty, because he knew that even his audience wouldn't be able to swallow such a thumper, much less the people out of doors, for whose benefit his performances were more especially intended; but he endeavoured to make it appear that what the aristocracy "only ordered" other people to pay as legacy-duty was but very harmless after all. "Only one-sixth," or *three hundred thousand pounds*, were paid at the rate of ten per cent. out of the *two millions* legacy tax annually raised from the trading and mercantile classes of the community—very mild upon our pockets certainly, considering that we are "only ordered" to pay this tax by those who ingeniously exempt themselves! Aye, but stay! The aristocracy have their ample share of fearful burdens to bear—they "have to pay to the land-tax, which amounts to £1,900,000 a-year; to church-rates, which amount to £500,000 a-year, the whole of which is levied upon the land" (!)—(hear that, ye church-rate recusants!)—with various other burdens, which according to his lordship's calculations, amount in all, we find, to about the sum by which our governmental expenditure now exceeds the budget of '35, or less than a fifth of our enormous taxation. But Lord Brougham is a political economist, or rather a political philosopher, and we must not wonder at his coolness in talking thus for the entertainment of the House of Lords, although he does it in the face of a nation "only ordered," among other things, to pay to government £850,000 a-year for permission to wash with soap!

His Lordship was great and oracular on the subject of war.

"If he began by turning towards the north, and then carried his view southwards from Schleswig-Holstein to the foot of the boot of Italy, he saw nothing but grounds for apprehending war."

And so because "Hungary, Croatia, Vienna, Piedmont, Venice, and Sicily," were likely for some time yet to be "by the ears," and we had no security for the establishment of peace on the Continent, however quiet we may be ourselves, and however likely it may be that our neighbours have enough to do in minding their own affairs, to prevent their contemplating an invasion of "our tight little island," we are nevertheless to bristle with bayonets in the maintenance of our "ancient alliances," and keep up our standing army as a standing terror to evil-doers and peace-breakers! His lordship, it appears, has been in communication with a first-rate authority as to France, of the value of whose information we may judge by the probability of its truthfulness.

"Within the last three weeks he had heard a member of the late Provisional Government in France say, that so far from there being any stability in the present state of things in France, there was not a republican to be found in the whole country."

And upon the probable truthfulness of such a statement as that, he argues the certainty of a restoration! What is the matter with the man? We hope that if a commission de lunatico inquiring, should at any future time inquire into the state of his mind, they will date his incompetency at least as far back as the first night of this session.

But, one drollery more! he has discovered the great panacea for Ireland's woes! "He earnestly wished that, in giving laws to Ireland, they could give to that country the inestimable blessing of LAWYERS!" The cure for Ireland's complaints, and the antidote to all her diseases, must henceforth be looked for under half-a-dozen horse-hair wigs! Not food, but fees; not blankets, but Blackstone; not work, but wigs, for the Irish, in future! Alas, Lord Brougham! we grieve to see thee mimic the mountebank, and play the fool; and well may Genius mourn that one of her sons has come to this!

STATE EDUCATION IN WALES.

MR. KAY SHUTTLEWORTH, and his lieutenant, Mr. Williams, late M.P. for Coventry, have commenced a second campaign in the Principality, for the purpose of advancing their schemes of State education. Their first move in this direction was not a prosperous one. After considerable exertion,

Mr. Williams succeeded in obtaining, at the hands of the Government, a commission to inquire into the state of education in Wales. The gentlemen appointed to that office did not understand the language of the great bulk of the population whose mental darkness they were called upon to certify. But this does not appear to have been a material objection. At all events, it did not prevent them from producing a blue book, which represented the Principality as a very hotbed of immorality, ignorance, and barbarism. Unfortunately, however—at least, for the credit of these gentlemen, as well as their employers—the naughty Welshmen, instead of reverently thanking them for the exposure, commenced a merciless dissection of these trumped-up reports. Despite their besotted ignorance, they were found to have sufficient intelligence to distinguish truth from falsehood. The national mind was aroused. Meetings were held in all the principal towns of Wales, at which resolutions, strongly condemnatory of the Commissioners' reports, were adopted. Analysis after analysis was published, in which the gross perversions and exaggerations of these gentlemen were so thoroughly exposed, that no candid, impartial mind can come to any other conclusion, than that these reports were got up rather to serve a purpose—"to spy out the nakedness of the land"—than to represent the true state of things.

This was an unpromising commencement of the attack on Welsh ignorance, and entailed considerable odium on its instigators. The simple Welshmen, who still retain their native sturdiness of character, were not at all enamoured of the centralizing system offered for their acceptance, nor anxious to put themselves under the pupillage of Mr. Kay Shuttleworth. The Commissioners had overdone their work—Welsh Dissenters, who comprise an overwhelming majority of the population, would have nothing to do with State education, and the Secretary of the Educational Committee was obliged to desist from his labours. Still the conflict has not entirely ceased. But the Welsh Dissenters have now a weekly champion in the *Principality* newspaper, which has done good service in keeping alive within them the flame of that zeal, the bursting forth of which struck so much dismay into the hearts of the State educationists. Latterly the warfare has partaken rather of the nature of a light skirmish than of a sustained conflict.

Once more, however, Mr. Williams has returned to the charge, but this time he has somewhat altered his tactics. His indefatigable perseverance is worthy of a better cause. The ex-member for Coventry seems possessed with a kind of monomania on this subject, which is utterly unaffected by facts, arguments, or appeals. He has worked himself into a belief which nothing can shake, that Wales "is more destitute of the means of procuring a good education than any other country in the civilized world," and that State education is the only effectual remedy for the evil. We give him credit for the sincerity of his belief, because we cannot conceive of a man not convinced of the soundness of his own conclusions, taking so extraordinary a course. But has it never occurred to the zealous apostle of State education, that the fact of a nation rising almost as one man to offer a firm but intelligent protest against the introduction of a Government system of education, because they conceive it to be detrimental to freedom, in itself betokens a degree of enlightenment which falsifies his opinions as to their ignorance and degradation, and proves that the great bulk of the population are in possession of the most valuable fruits of education? Can we imagine the peasantry of Ireland adopting such a course? No, because they are, despite the system of education which exists in their midst, sunk too low in ignorance and degradation. But Mr. Williams knows better than his countrymen what is good for them. Their ingratitude for his efforts to saddle them with another State establishment is only a fresh incentive to perseverance. He has, therefore, commenced the work anew.

A short time back, the ex-M.P. published a pamphlet, re-producing the exploded statements of the Commissioners, and recommending "the establishment, with Government aid, of a general college for South Wales, open to all denominations, with a department for the particular instruction of schoolmasters." This scheme was brought before a public meeting of the inhabitants of Swansea, on Friday week, in compliance with a requisition presented to the Mayor of that borough. Here the opponents of State education gave him battle. The discussion, which occupied two evenings, was interesting and important. On the one side were the hon. gentleman himself, the Rev. J. Rhys Jones, and other prominent supporters of State interference, and on the other Mr. Davies, Principal of the Normal College, Mr. Michael, of Swansea, the Rev. W. Howells, and other leading supporters of free education. The meeting appears to have been about equally divided in opinion, although the *Principality* declares that a decided majority held up their hands against Mr. Williams's scheme. Be that as it may, it is evident that this

second attempt to induce the people of Wales to accept a system of State education, accompanied as it is with many tempting provisions, is not likely to fare better than the first. Mr. Williams will scarcely venture to submit his plan to the decision of another public meeting in South Wales, after this virtual defeat at Swansea.

But it is not at all likely that Government will abandon their cherished design of bringing the Principality under the control of the Committee on Education. Their hands are at present too full of other business to permit of the matter being brought before Parliament. But they will bide their time, and offer more insidious terms. It was even intimated at the above meeting, that notwithstanding Mr. Shuttleworth's explicit statement, that "a school in which it was professed (for whatever reason) to give no religious instruction, would not be admissible to receive any assistance from the Parliamentary grant, either for building, furnishing, or maintenance," Government would consent to interfere less with religion than it did even in the *Minutes of Council of July 10th, 1847, provided Dissenters agreed among themselves in asking for a further modification of the Minutes*. No doubt. What is desired is to get the whole of the educational machinery of the country under the control of the State. To accomplish this object no efforts will be spared. The Dissenters of England and Wales are at present the great hindrance to the realization of this scheme. Mr. Kay Shuttleworth finding other means fail, would bribe them into acquiescence, as he did the Wesleyans, and probably with a similar result. We are glad, therefore, to observe the resolute rejection of the insidious proposals of Government by the Dissenters of Wales. No doubt much requires to be done in improving the education of the people there, as well as in other parts of the kingdom; but present and past experience confirm us in the conviction that the work can be effectually performed without the interference of Government. The Continent furnishes abundant evidence of the failure of State education to improve the intelligence and morals of society, and our own columns of this day furnish proof of its inefficiency in the United States. To those of our readers who are enamoured of State interference, we would commend the description given elsewhere of its practical results in the latter country, where, in consequence of the failure of the common school system, it is not unlikely "that the different denominations will take their schools from under the control of the State, and support them, as they do their churches, on the voluntary principle."

EDUCATION IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

Manchester, January 23rd, 1849.

SIR,—A great deal has been said by the advocates of State education about the condition of education in America: they have often adduced that country as furnishing a favourable proof of the expediency of entrusting education to the care of the State. So confident are some of our zealous educationists in Lancashire about the excellency of the American plan, that they have formed a plan upon the model of that adopted in Massachusetts, and have already prepared the draft of a bill to lay before Parliament, to enable them to carry out their scheme. I have, Sir, recently returned from an educational tour in the United States of America. During my visit, I visited some scores of its common schools, and several of its collegiate and other educational establishments, and, from all I saw and heard, I am fully convinced that, both in an intellectual and a moral point of view, the state of education in the United States of America is far, very far, behind what it is in this country.

The inefficiency of these schools is becoming apparent to the Americans themselves, as the following extracts from recently published educational documents in that country will show. The city of Boston, with a population of about 100,000 persons, spends near £40,000 per annum in support of her public schools. In 1845 a very careful inquiry was made by the city authorities into their condition. In their Report the committee say:—"The whole number of pupils present on the days when we examined, was 7,455; the whole number offered for examination, comprising the flower of the Boston public schools, was 530; the average of their ages was thirteen years and six months. The whole number of written questions put to them, to which written answers were expected (ample time being given to solve each) amounted to 159. To

these there should have been 84,270 answers, if each scholar had been able to answer; but there were only 31,161; leaving unanswered 53,109. The 31,161 answers contained 2,802 errors in grammar, and 3,747 errors in spelling. In geography, the wrong answers amounted to 4,671, and in history, 2,941." The committee say, "these answers show, beyond all doubt, that a large portion of the scholars of our first classes, boys and girls of fourteen or fifteen years of age, when called upon to write simple sentences—to express their thoughts on common subjects without the aid of a dictionary or a master—cannot write without such errors in grammar, in spelling, and in punctuation, as we should blush to see in a letter from a son or daughter of their age. There is another melancholy consideration, which is that of the first class. If the children who have during a year enjoyed that special care and attention which our teachers give to the upper classes, go out imperfectly instructed, what must be the case with the hundreds and thousands of the children of our less favoured citizens, whom necessity forces to leave the schools without even reaching the first class?" The superintendent of common schools for the state of Vermont, in his Report for 1846, says:—"That there is a very general deficiency in the qualification of teachers in our schools is painfully apparent—that an illiterate dunce, a finished dolt, or one grossly reckless of all moral responsibility, is instated at the head of a school, is a fact too notorious to be denied." A New York superintendent, in his Report for 1846, says:—"It must be admitted that the system adopted in them is neither the most rational, appropriate, or uniform; that the interest felt by the people in their prosperity is more theoretical than practical; and that the moral influence they are exerting is neither so great or so salutary as it ought to be." The editor of the *District School Journal*, published under the authority of the state of New York, says:—"We are suffering from the evils of neglected and imperfect education. *Want, vice, and crime, in their myriad forms, bear witness against our educational institutions*, and demand inquiry, whether they can prevent or remedy the evils which are sapping the foundations of society. That the schools have not accomplished the object of their creation, unfortunately requires no proof." A writer in the *Princeton Review* for July, 1846, says:—"The conviction, we are persuaded, is fast taking hold of the minds of good people, that the common school system is rapidly assuming, not a mere negative, but a positively anti-Christian character; and that in self-defence, and in the discharge of their highest duty to God and their country, they must set themselves against it, and adopt the system of parochial schools, in which each church shall teach fully, fairly, and earnestly, what it believes to be the truth of God." This suggestion had been pretty extensively acted upon when I left the United States last June, and from information I have since received it appears not unlikely the different religious denominations will take their schools from under the control of the State, and support them, as they do their churches, on the voluntary principle. From what I have now written, your readers can judge whether a scheme developing such results as these I have described (and I could have mentioned many more instances of a similar character), is worthy of imitation.

I remain, yours respectfully,

WILLIAM CORNS.

A CONSIDERATE POLICEMAN.—The Halifax new borough police have printed instructions that their duty is to prevent offences. One of the body the other day carried out his instructions in rather a novel manner. Two drunken fellows were quarrelling in the street, and from words were proceeding to blows, when the gentleman in blue came up. Without drawing staff he marched upon the irate combatants, and tapping one of them on the shoulder, said gravely, "You haven't either of you fourteen shillin' that you can spare, have you?" This broad hint at "penalty and costs" brought the two to their senses. They remembered that they could not afford the luxury of a street row, and so they went away in peace.—*Daily News*. [Pity but, when nations declare war, some authoritative power were at hand to put the question, "You haven't either of you a few millions to spare, have you?"]

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE PEELITES AND THE PROTECTIONISTS.

In an article on the state of parties, the *Examiner* gives the following description of the state of these two parties, and the portraits of their chiefs:—"Within the term Conservatives we comprise that compact though not very numerous body of Tories who supported the free-trade policy of Sir Robert Peel, and who have clung zealously to his fortunes since he retired from office. This party contains many of our most thoughtful, intellectual, and clever public men; but its principal strength unquestionably lies in the fame and ability of its chief. Sir Robert Peel has by no means passed blamelessly through public life, and we have not been backward in the exposure of his errors; but he is entitled to the credit of having powerfully aided in a peaceable settlement of some of the most perilous questions of the age. He has displayed undoubted administrative ability, great occasional prudence in the management of political affairs, and sagacity in recognising the immediate wants of his time. This last most statesmanlike quality he owes perhaps not more to the vigour and the penetration of his intellect, than to his unimpassioned temperament. He has necessarily made himself, by a frequent tortuous policy, the object of bitter vituperation; but we cannot think, questionable as his political morality has often been, that in any of the great events of his life he has been wholly indifferent to the public good. His ambition, we truly believe, was never sordid or dishonourable; though we may also believe it to have been seldom perfectly disinterested and pure. To consult the dignity of his own character and position, and to merit, by his public services, that posthumous fame which he has professed to be his idol, would appear to have been his chief desire. His patriotism is not an internal and a burning light. He is animated by no refined or abstract love of justice and truth, nor is his vision apt to be clouded, or his enthusiasm kindled, by any peculiar cherished predilections. A cold and calculating self-respect, an unceasing and solicitous regard for the interests of his character and the dignity of his position, have been the mainsprings of his career. He has recently declared himself indifferent to office, and we cannot wonder that the indignities to which office has compelled him to submit should have stripped it of many of the charms which it formerly possessed. But that he could seriously decline power, if it were really placed within his reach, we do not imagine. It is clear that his party, without him, could possess no claim whatever to the eminence they aspire to obtain. Even with the prestige of his name, indeed, we think their position essentially untenable and false. It is manifest that, as Liberals, they cannot supplant the older, better known, and more firmly-established Whig party; while it seems equally clear, that they can never again coalesce with that impracticable Tory phalanx whose creed consists in an obstinate and eternal resistance to every popular demand, and in a blind and slavish obedience to the high-priest party in the Church.

"But of all the sections into which the House of Commons is divided, the Protectionists are unquestionably the weakest and the most helpless. We do not see how they could be otherwise. These men represent merely the prejudices, the blind and unreasoning instincts, the selfish fears, of an uninformed class. They have united for no more useful purpose, as yet, than to cherish the memory of an irrevocable past. In their ranks they do not count a single man to whom the people of this country would willingly entrust their destinies for an hour, and scarcely half a dozen men capable of filling with blameless mediocrity the meanest offices in the State. We must add, that we do not think their numbers are now as great as many persons appear to suppose. We believe that of the hundreds who voted against a repeal of the corn-laws, there are at present not fifty who are not thoroughly ashamed, either of their cause or their associates.

"The members of this party have lately been sadly at a loss what leader to choose; and we cannot wonder at their embarrassment when we consider the materials existing for their choice. They must confer the post of honour on the indolent and feeble Lord Granby, or they must bestow their confidence, if they can, on the honourable member for Shrewsbury. The latter is the only man among them whose talents are fitted for a position of eminence; and yet we do not know that we could witness a more curious public spectacle than that of this very clever, but very strange, irregular, fickle, and unsteady politician, placed at the head of the slow, stolid, bigoted, and sincere country gentlemen of England. In the late discussions on their leadership, a noble duke is understood to have taken objection to 'an author,' as unfit for the lead of Protectionists. Mr. Burke protested against yoking a courser of the sun to a mud-cart, and the duke may be perfectly right. But this is not our objection. The disqualifying causes in the present case appear to be of a quite different kind.

"The idiosyncrasy of Mr. Disraeli, let us confess, is a mystery to our comprehension. We are utterly at a loss to conceive how a person so strangely gifted could ever have attained the position which he now fills. His ability and his folly, his shrewdness and his want of tact, the keenness of his perceptions, and his utter want of fixed views or principles of any kind, the strength and the weakness of his intellect and character, form a compound as perplexing as any that philosopher could discourse on, or chemist attempt to analyze. With an all-absorbing desire to become the associate of statesmen and diplomatists,

and ready to sacrifice every other consideration to the attainment of this end, Mr. Disraeli entered on life. A place among the high-born, and the admiration of glittering rank and haughty beauty, were the confessed objects of his ambition. To these objects he directed all the powers of a mind showy but unsound, subtle and pungent, but extravagant and undisciplined, and perverted thoroughly by the most outrageous self-conceit, and the most unscrupulous ambition to shine. Sir Robert Peel having declined, when in office, to avail himself of his services, he found in the proposed repeal of the corn-laws an opportunity which he could not resist, of at once gratifying his vengeance and indulging his thirst for political distinction. Not many months before, he had sneered bitterly at the so-called followers of Pitt supposing themselves true to his principles in clinging to paltry doctrines of commercial restriction; and he now proceeded to defend those paltry doctrines with the same zeal which in other circumstances he would doubtless have brought to a defence of the doctrines of free-trade. Still more ardently and successfully, however, he became engaged in assailing the minister by whom the contemplated change was proposed. Of those censures of Sir Robert Peel we shall here only say, that while we cannot but condemn their bitter and unsparing personality, and certainly cannot admire the motives in which they originated, we yet do not think that they were wholly undeserved. If the conduct of the statesman had not been open to animadversion, the vituperation of his assailant must have proved far less effective. But it seems to us that the success of Mr. Disraeli in that instance acquired for him a reputation in the House of Commons as a party leader and orator to which he can lay no legitimate claim. In our judgment, nothing whatever, proceeding from a man of real and acknowledged ability, can be conceived more futile and irrelevant than the greater portion of the speeches in which Mr. Disraeli lays aside attack, and condescends to think and to reason. The staple of those productions consists usually of extravagant paradox, developed with pertinacious emphasis; or of unintelligible allusion to foreign politics and forgotten treaties, almost wholly unconnected with the immediate subject of discussion. On their prospects under such a leader, therefore, quite apart from his demerits of 'authorship,' we cannot possibly congratulate the Protectionist party."

A CURATE FLOGGED.—A rather unusual and exciting scene occurred, as we are given to understand, on Friday last, at the adjacent quiet little town of Wilton—the curate of the new church, the Rev. Mr. Jacob, having been publicly assaulted by two gentlemen in the square. From sundry pieces of explanation dropped at the time on the subject, it is accounted for as follows:—It appears that an elderly gentleman, living in Leeds, has a daughter, between whom and Mr. Jacob an acquaintance has subsisted for some time past, and at the father's house the supposed suitor was fed and lodged for the space of about two years. On obtaining his present curacy, however, it seems he left his lady love to sigh behind him, and has altogether given up the connexion. The young lady's feelings being worked upon by this treatment, she became in an alarming state of excitement; and this exasperating the feelings of her brother and father, they paid a visit to Salisbury, going thence to Wilton, on purpose to inflict the above summary punishment. Post-horses were ordered, with which they reached the Pembroke Arms Hotel; then, watching their opportunity, a message was forwarded to the curate's residence, soliciting an interview on the part of the two gentlemen. The unsuspecting man had reached as far as the square in complying with their request, when the father and son met him with outstretched hands (but in them horsewhips), and both commenced a course of flagellation. Some bystanders interfered and held back the son, with an idea of fair play, and when the old gentleman had exhausted his strength by the exercise, he left the place, and immediately returned to London by the next train; and so the matter ended for the present. Since this affair the father of the curate, who resides in the Isle of Wight, has had an audience with the Bishop of Salisbury on the subject, who, it is said, recommends a law-suit. The flogging affair is the talk of the whole neighbourhood.—*Sherborne Journal*.

A RAINY YEAR.—Last year seems to have been an unusually pluvius one. In the "Gardeners' Chronicle" of last week, the monthly registers (kept at Witham) of 1847 and 1848 are placed side by side. Their total shows, that in the former year 17.60 inches fell, while in the latter there was a descent of 30 inches of rain. The October of the past year was the wettest, 4.85 inches of rain having fallen. In the corresponding month of the previous year it amounted to no more than 1.56.

THE STANFIELD HALL MURDERS.—The holding of the assize for this county having been now fixed by Chief Baron Pollock and Mr. Baron Rolfe, the trial of Rush has again become the subject of much conversation in the county. Bore, the claimant to the Stanfield Hall estate, Thomas Jermy, and John Lerner, are to be examined at the trial. These poor men, it may be remembered, had a narrow escape of being placed in a very serious position in connexion with the murders, Rush, by artifice, having got them down in the neighbourhood of Stanfield Hall a short time before the assassination took place. Fortunately, however, they left some days before the crime was committed. Rush is watched with great care in Norwich Castle. He appears rather more dejected than when first charged with the crime.

PEOPLE'S LEAGUE AND PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

We commend the following extracts from "A Member of the People's League," to the attention of our readers:—"The People's League, I am happy to say, is free from debt; every obligation has been discharged in the most honourable manner, and I need not mention the names of those who have made considerable sacrifices to accomplish this. We are placed under great obligations to them for the spirit in which they have acted, and the liberality they have shown.

"The People's League has not funds to employ to meet expenses which may be incurred in the vicinity of London, or other places, where their principles may be approved of: they have other expenses to meet, which cannot be dispensed with, and which must be discharged, to enable them to maintain their position, and hold themselves in readiness to convene a second Conference, whenever circumstances shall render such a step desirable.

"It is evident, therefore, that wherever persons feel themselves disposed to exert themselves in any locality, to promote the same objects, they must raise a local fund for that purpose.

"This difficulty I had to contend with at Camberwell. If any thing was done, it must be done at my own expense. This did not deter me, however, from making the attempt. I immediately purchased some paper, and wrote out a few petitions, according to a form given in your paper last week. I began next to my own dwelling, and found no difficulty in obtaining signatures; indeed, very few refused to sign, and they expressed their pleasure at something being done. Having filled a few petitions in this way, it occurred to me that if a few hand-bills (a copy of which is subjoined), were printed and placed in the shop windows, it would soon become more generally known, and others may come forward to share the labour with me, and contribute to the expense. This they were the more willing to do, when they found I was doing everything at my own expense. Their promises of assistance afforded me a fresh stimulus to exertion. Since I wrote last week, I have had an interview with the Lambeth Electoral Association. They not only expressed their approbation of the plan I adopted, but gave proof of their sincerity in contributing, in their private capacity, towards the expense I had incurred, and also have engaged to place in my hands, in a few days, 1,000 handbills to place in the shop windows, and 100 petitions, drawn up by themselves, and approved of by their committee. These petitions will not only include the principle of complete suffrage, adopted by the League, but also the anti-state-church principle, adopted by their Association. Having my hands thus strengthened by the promise of some zealous friends who live near me, and, in addition to that, the assistance and approbation of so influential and so respectable a body as the members of that Association, I no longer stand as an isolated individual, working single-handed and alone. I shall now make greater progress; indeed, already handbills, as likewise petitions, at a suitable distance, have been placed in the shop windows all the way from Denmark-hill, along the Camberwell-road, to the Elephant and Castle; and will, in a few days, extend to the Southwark side of London-bridge.

"A great many persons, who were before uttering complaints against the Government, are now actively engaged in obtaining signatures to petitions, and calling the attention of their neighbours to the important principles they contain. It must appear to every one, that this plan will furnish a lever of immense power, if properly carried out, which it may be with some pecuniary assistance, and a proper agency, under a proper superintendent. I do not scruple to affirm, from what I have already seen, that the same plan may be carried out, not only through this borough, but throughout London and its vicinity, containing 2,000,000 of inhabitants, and a much larger number than 100,000 signatures may be obtained. I fear I have already made my letter too long, or should be glad to say something more on the advantages that will arise out of a well-organized plan of getting up petitions of twenty signatures.

"The following is a copy of the handbill, which will answer the purpose in any locality:—

"People's League for a thorough Reform in Parliament.—Petitions for Parliamentary and Financial Reform are lying for signature within, and at the following places:—Mr. —, Mr. —, and many other places.

"At present, six millions are deprived of the right of voting. The heavy duties imposed on articles of consumption are felt to be very oppressive to the trading and working classes.

"It is proposed to hold a series of meetings in London and its vicinity to promote the objects of the Association, of which due notice will be given. The broad principle of justice adopted by the People's League is adapted to unite all parties. All honest and zealous Reformers are invited to aid this peaceful and constitutional agitation.

"N.B.—Tracts issued by the League may be had where the petitions lie."

REPRESENTATION OF THE CARDIGANSHIRE BOROUGH.—The canvass on both sides is carried on with great ardour, and each party is sanguine of success. Our correspondents state that the prospects of Mr. Pryse are brightening, and that his success is certain. We are assured, on good authority, that Mr. Pryse will vote against the endowment of the Roman Catholics from any source whatever, and also against the *Regium Donum*; and that, on all questions of importance, his votes will be satisfactory.—*Principality*.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

The Queen opened the session of Parliament at Westminster on Thursday, with the usual splendour of procession and state ceremony. A few hours of the morning were propitiously contrasted to the generally dull day, and served to tempt an immense concourse of spectators. The House of Lords was very early crowded with peeresses and ladies who had obtained tickets of admission: in gorgeous and varied costume, they occupied the whole of the benches except the front row, the whole of the side-galleries, and the strangers' gallery. The *corps diplomatique* found seats behind the bishops' gallery. The Duke of Wellington was of course one of the most punctual in his attendance: "on entering the House he conversed familiarly with a bevy of ladies, who at once surrounded him." The Archbishop of Canterbury followed; soon after, the Duke of Cambridge, announced by a flourish of trumpets, and by his own hearty salutations to all around him; then Lord Denman and the judges.

Soon after two o'clock, the Queen entered, leaning on Prince Albert's arm; preceded by the great officers of state, and followed by six pages bearing her train.

The House of Commons having been summoned, the Queen delivered the following

SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The period being arrived at which the business of Parliament is usually resumed, I have called you together for the discharge of your important duties.

It is satisfactory to me to be enabled to state that both in the north and in the south of Europe the contending parties have consented to a suspension of arms for the purpose of negotiating terms of peace.

The hostilities carried on in the island of Sicily were attended with circumstances so revolting, that the British and French admirals were impelled by motives of humanity to interpose, and to stop the further effusion of blood.

I have availed myself of the interval thus obtained to propose, in conjunction with France, to the King of Naples an arrangement calculated to produce a permanent settlement of affairs in Sicily. The negotiation on these matters is still pending.

It has been my anxious endeavour, in offering my good offices to the various contending powers, to prevent the extension of the calamities of war, and to lay the foundations for lasting and honourable peace. It is my constant desire to maintain with all foreign states the most friendly relations.

As soon as the interests of the public service will permit, I shall direct the papers connected with these transactions to be laid before you.

A rebellion of a formidable character has broken out in the Punjab, and the Governor-General of India has been compelled, for the preservation of the peace of the country, to assemble a considerable force, which is now engaged in military operations against the insurgents. But the tranquillity of British India has not been affected by these unprovoked disturbances.

I again commend to your attention the restrictions imposed on commerce by the navigation laws.

If you shall find that these laws are, in whole or in part, unnecessary for the maintenance of our maritime power, while they fetter trade and industry, you will no doubt deem it right to repeal or modify their provisions.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates for the service of the year to be laid before you; they will be framed with the most anxious attention to a wise economy.

The present aspect of affairs has enabled me to make large reductions on the estimates of last year.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I observe with satisfaction that this portion of the United Kingdom has remained tranquil, amidst the convulsions which have disturbed so many parts of Europe.

The insurrection in Ireland has not been renewed, but a spirit of disaffection still exists, and I am compelled, to my great regret, to ask for a continuance for a limited time of those powers which, in the last session, you deemed necessary for the preservation of the public tranquillity.

I have great satisfaction in stating, that commerce is reviving from those shocks which, at the commencement of last session, I had to deplore.

The condition of the manufacturing districts is likewise more encouraging than it has been for a considerable period.

It is also gratifying to me to observe that the state of the revenue is one of progressive improvement.

I have to lament, however, that another failure in the potato crop has caused very severe distress in some parts of Ireland.

The operation of the laws for the relief of the poor in Ireland will properly be a subject of your inquiry, and any measures by which those laws may be beneficially amended, and the condition of the people may be improved, will receive my cordial assent.

It is with pride and thankfulness that I advert to the loyal spirit of my people, and that attachment to our institutions which has animated them during a period of commercial difficulty, deficient production of food, and political revolution.

I look to the protection of Almighty God for favour in our continued progress, and I trust that you will assist me in upholding the fabric of the constitution, founded, as it is, upon the principles of freedom and of justice.

Her Majesty and suite then retired, and their Lordships adjourned until five o'clock.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS

commenced in the House of Lords at five o'clock.

Lord Bruce rose to move the address; and, after sympathizing with the gratification expressed in her Majesty's speech at the state of our foreign relations, proceeded to congratulate the House on the prospect of an increased revenue and a decreased expenditure.

Adverting to Ireland, he remarked, that while it was the duty of the mover of the address last year to predict a coming storm, it was now his own more pleasurable task to remind their lordships, that the tempest had passed over, though it

was still necessary to continue for a time the precautionary measures called for by the state of public feeling in that island. The noble lord then eulogized the late Lord G. Bentinck and Lord Auckland, and concluded by moving an address which was, as usual, an echo of the speech.

Lord BATEMAN briefly seconded the address.

Lord BROUGHAM could not help feeling, that an agitation of a popular description had been commenced in this country, under very unhappy auspices, against which he would take his stand in the outset—an agitation against the landed interest. He saw no prospect of making, with safety, any great reduction in our military establishments. The noble and learned lord passed some severe comments on the Crown lawyers in Ireland.

Lord BEAUMONT eulogized the foreign policy of the Government.

The Earl of WINCHELSEA deprecated any attempt to reduce the military or naval strength of the country.

Lord STANLEY could not help remarking on the want of judgment which the Ministry had displayed in concocting a speech in which scarce a single paragraph was not open to hostile criticism.

In the first place, there was great exaggeration as to the increased prosperity of the country, which, after all, had shown as yet very slight symptoms of revival.

Again, for the first time in his Parliamentary experience, her Majesty was unable to say, "that she continued to receive from all foreign Powers assurances of their friendly relations;" all that the speech was able to say was, that it was her Majesty's constant desire to maintain the most friendly relations with all foreign states. He was glad to hear that such was the desire of the Government, for he had hitherto thought, that the constant desire of her Majesty's advisers had been to embroil us in the affairs of every foreign state.

In Spain, a British Envoy intermeddled, and was expelled with insult. Austria was so disgusted at the unfriendly attitude of England, that she had not thought it worth while to signify, by a special Envoy to the Court of St. James, the accession of her new Emperor.

In Italy we had interfered, and the consequence had been a prolonged civil war between the King of Naples and his revolted subjects in Sicily, when, if we had not plagued that Monarch with our advice and assistance, the quarrel would have been long since settled.

In short, the state of our relations with almost every European Power was unsatisfactory, if not unfriendly. There was, it was true, one great exception, and that was France; but the reason why we were on good terms with that country was simply because we had abstained from meddling with her internal affairs.

As for the Punjab, the state of our arms in that part of India was not such as to entitle us to look forward to being able to reduce our military establishment.

The temper of Ireland was anything but satisfactory, and a long course of colonial oppression had converted some of the most loyal into the most disaffected subjects of the British Crown.

In the face of all these causes for alarm, he was astounded at the audacity with which the Ministers had made her Majesty declare that the aspect of affairs was such as to enable them to effect large reductions in the estimates.

If reductions could be accomplished, in God's name let them be made; but he would never concur with those who for the sake of economy would largely diminish the strength of the country.

The noble lord then proceeded to criticise other portions of the Ministerial policy, and, adverting to the total repeal of the duties on corn, expressed his unaltered opinion of the injustice of the measure, as well as his firm conviction that the country must return to a moderate import duty.

He then concluded his speech by moving the insertion at the end of the paragraph in her Majesty's speech which says that "the state of the revenue is one of progressive improvement," of the following words:—

We regret, however, to be compelled humbly to represent to your Majesty that neither your Majesty's relations with foreign powers, nor the state of the revenue, nor the condition of the commercial and manufacturing interests, are such as to entitle us to address you in the language of congratulation; and that a large portion of the agricultural and colonial interests of the empire are labouring under a state of progressive depression calculated to excite serious apprehension and anxiety.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE, in a speech of considerable length, defended the Ministerial policy, which was again warmly attacked by the Duke of RICHMOND.

The Duke of WELLINGTON entreated their Lordships not to let it go forth that they disagreed on the subject of their foreign negotiations, and expressed his determination to vote against the amendment.

After a few words in explanation from Lord STANLEY, their Lordships divided:—

Contents 52

Non-contents 50

Majority for Ministers —2

The address was then agreed to.

The House adjourned till Monday next.

On Monday night, Lord Fortescue, as Lord Steward of the Household, communicated to their lordships her Majesty's most gracious answer to the loyal address of the House.

APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

The *Daily News*, which is now published in its enlarged form, and furnishes very animated and full and faithful summaries of the proceedings of Parliament, gives the following sketch of the first sitting of the House of Commons:—

"Very little excitement marked, on Thursday night, the first meeting of Parliament. At the hour of meeting, four o'clock, the House of Commons was very thin, and it continued so for more than an hour, when members began gradually to drop in. Sir

Robert Peel was not present at the commencement of the sitting; nor were Mr. Cobden or Mr. Bright in their usual places. The SPEAKER reminded the House, too, that since its last meeting it had lost some of its most prominent members—that, among others, Lord George Bentinck and Charles Buller had passed away from the scene of political and party strife, leaving on each side of the House a place that it would be difficult to fill.

Mr. T. Duncombe, though still numbered among the members of the House, is not to be seen within its walls. Dr. Bowring, too, is gone. But though all these were wanting, there were present many well-known faces. The Treasury Bench was filled as usual—Sir Charles Wood was glowing with self-satisfaction, and out bloomed his neighbour, the Premier.

Sir Robert Inglis was in his usual seat at the lower end of the House, beaming with benevolence, and adorned with a magnificent camellia. Mr. Horsman, ardent for another tilt at a bishop, had a place under Mr. Hume, who sat like a political patriarch among the members of his section.

On the opposition bench Mr. Feargus O'Connor, with arms a-kimbo and a jaunty air, elbowed Lord Lincoln on one side and Mr. Disraeli on the other. Lord Granby sat next to the last mentioned, and looked as leader-like as his years permitted—Mr. Bankes, as usual, was lower down on the front bench.

Sir James Graham had fixed himself in a posture of easy attention on a back bench on the same side. Lord Ashley was under the gallery appointed for the reporters, and there were other well-known members, such as Messrs. Brotherton, Masterman, and Drummond, all conspicuous in their customary positions.

Mr. Benjamin Hawes flitted about the House with an official box in a state of restless activity, and Mr. Tuftnell at the bar was counting noses half the evening, and shaking hands with the members of his whip.

"Mr. Crowder, Mr. Bass, and Mr. Heyworth were sworn at the table, and new writs were ordered for Portsmouth, Hull, South Devon, Leominster, and Bolton. Mr. Tuftnell then intimated the course which Government would pursue with respect to public business.

A new measure for the consolidation of the Excise and Stamps departments was fixed for this day; a measure to continue the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland would occupy Tuesday; the appointment of select committees on the Irish poor law and on the army and ordnance estimates were fixed for Friday next; and the consideration of a measure relating to the navigation laws for the 12th.

A shoal of 'independent notices of motion' succeeded: Sir Robert Inglis on slave-trade suppression, Mr. Feargus O'Connor for repeal of the union, Major Blackall on the state of Ireland, Mr. Chisholm Anstey on the inland fisheries of the sister kingdom; Sir J. S. Pakington on bribery and corruption; Lord Dudley Stuart for triennial Parliaments; Mr. Urquhart on our interference in Sicily; Mr. H. Bailie on colonial grievances; Mr. Henry Drummond, a bill to facilitate the transfer of real property; Col. Sibthorp, for the reduction of duty on fire insurances; and M. John O'Connell on the state of Ireland, with a provisional intimation of a contemplated call of the House.

Lord Duncan, with proper promptitude, gave notice of his intention to move to-day for the re-appointment of the Woods and Forests committee; and Mr. Horsman intimated his intention to ask two puzzling questions of the Premier this evening—one respecting the arrangements in the Bishop Wearmouth case; the other, as to the measures contemplated by the Government on the subject of ecclesiastical reform, their character, and when they would be introduced. Here is a budget for the ensuing six weeks!"

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

At five o'clock the Speaker read from the chair the speech delivered from the throne at an earlier hour, and Lord HARRY VANE rose to propose the loyal address to be presented to the Queen in reply.

It is usual for a member to be selected for this occasion of somewhat less parliamentary experience than Lord Harry Vane. His lordship, however, appears to have been invited to the task as a prudent, cautious, careful speaker, popular with the Whigs, on account as well of personal qualities as of connexion with a powerful family, and sufficiently liberal neither to alarm nor affront the Radicals.

His lordship touched upon the various topics of the speech calmly, and in a tone calculated to deprecate opposition. Mr. E. H. BUNBURY, the member for Bury St. Edmund's, followed as his seconder. He is a young member of the House, who has not hitherto taken any prominent part in its debates. He spoke neatly—with smooth propriety, and with all the confidence arising from careful preparation. His speech did not, however, possess much novelty.

The address having been duly proposed, Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Henry Grattan rose together. The former, it appeared, had caught the Speaker's eye. He opened in a bold and vigorous tone.

Mr. DISRAELI commenced by declaring that the speech from the throne was not a candid statement of the position of the country as regarded either its internal or its external position. With regard to the most important paragraph—that respecting Ireland—what was meant by the promise of "inquiry?"

If it was only intended to inquire into the operation of the poor laws in Ireland, that would, in his opinion, be neither a satisfactory nor a statesmanlike mode of meeting the emergency. He expressed his opinion that Irish members had much to answer for. They gave their private encouragement to measures, both English and Irish, to which at the same time they gave their public opposition. There had been a policy once proposed in that House which had been defeated by the Irish members, in conjunction with the Government, who were afterwards obliged

partially to adopt it. It was introduced by one who was no more amongst them (alluding to Lord George Bentinck). Whilst everything that passed around them indicated his prescience and demanded his energy, they had no more his sagacity to direct, nor his judgment to guide them. In the midst of the parliamentary strife, his plume could soar no more for his friends to rally round, but he had left them the legacy of heroes, the memory of his great name, and the inspiration of his great example. The hon. member then passed to the new commercial system, which, in his opinion, had had a fair trial, and had failed. In 1847, there had been the largest importation of bread-stuffs from the United States during any one year since corn-law repeal. What had the Americans taken in exchange? Sixty millions additional yards of our cotton manufactures. But had that demand continued? On the contrary, the excess had merely arisen from the fact that, in consequence of our depression, the Americans could buy in our markets cheaper than they could manufacture at home; and such not being the case now, the demand this year had fallen by no less than thirty millions of yards. He also quoted documents to show that the South American markets were glutted with British manufactures. Russia was hermetically sealed, and Prussia "not yet shaken." All sensible men were now beginning to maintain that reciprocity was the only basis for commercial negotiation. He quoted returns to show that the exports of Lancashire manufactures during the last sixteen years had been much greater to the British colonies than to any foreign country. Canada took more of our manufactures than the United States; the British West Indies, than the foreign West Indies; India and China had exceeded the Brazils; and this fact, be it remarked, had been more remarkably exemplified than ever since the passing of corn-law repeal. But he left this subject for the more lively and stimulating topics of the address. He was surprised at the moral courage of her Majesty's advisers. Their paragraphs on foreign affairs seemed rather diplomatic than Parliamentary; they were conceived in a spirit of inaccurate obscurity. He objected to the designation "King of Naples." He asked what was to be understood by the omission of all reference to assurances of friendship from foreign powers with whom we were in alliance? He had warned the House last year against "mock mediations." Government had been doing nothing but following up these "mock mediations;" and, as he predicted, nothing had come of them. The Financial Reform Association of Liverpool would probably have written a pamphlet at the expense of these "mock missions," only that unfortunately the Liverpool reformers were responsible for some half dozen of them. And here he must take leave to congratulate the Government on their conversion to financial reform. "The aspect of affairs allowed of large reductions in the estimates." What aspect of affairs? The disaffection in Ireland—the rebellion in the Punjab—the state of the continent? When they met last year her Majesty could boast of having allies abroad, and things were represented to be prosperous at home. But at that time we were to have an increase of military and naval force. What change had taken place since to make them more secure under their roofs? He was sure that no one who sat on his side of the House would agree to any retrenchment that was not a safe and evidently good retrenchment. They would not, he was satisfied, meddle with a fleet which was far more important than an administration. But the reductions were to be "large." Were the Government converts to the perpetual peace theory? Had the budgets founded on that theory inspired any portion of the paragraph in the royal speech? He advised that the ten millions to be annually saved, should be taken from the savings accruing from corn-law repeal [laughter]. He had always found that rash retrenchments had been followed by increased expenditure. The moral of the Reform Bill was, that whilst it had been carried for retrenchment, it had increased expenditure ten millions. He could hardly believe that Ministers would rise and say that the expenditure of a year was to be regulated by any other rule than the exigencies of the time. He was told that England must be content with a less demonstration of "brute force." What did they mean by brute force? An army? He had always thought that organized troops, fighting for national honour under a Cæsar, an Alexander, or our own Wellesley, exhibited as much of moral as of brute force. When he saw men of ability stirring up the passions of large bodies of his fellow-countrymen, that was what he called an exhibition of "brute force" [loud cheers]; and it was a brute force which he hoped the country would put down [renewed cheers]. Yes! but the Queen's Ministers were truckling to these men; and therefore he should move an amendment. He repeated that he did not believe the address gave an honest and fair representation to the throne of the state of the country, and he should propose "to state to her Majesty that neither the state of our foreign relations, nor of our revenues, nor of our commercial and manufacturing interests, were such as to enable the House to address her Majesty in the language of congratulation; and that the agricultural and colonial interests were labouring under a state of progressive depression calculated to excite serious apprehensions and anxiety." He concluded by enforcing this amendment, and with a peroration in which he declared the principles the Tory party stood forward to assert. He denounced the Jacobin manoeuvres of the Manchester clubs. He denounced their politics and defied their predictions; and he did so because he had faith in the people of this country, in their genius, and in their destiny. ["Mr.

Disraeli," says the *Daily News*, "has undoubtedly improved vastly as a speaker, and in this great effort, perhaps, to assume and secure for himself the leadership of his party, displayed a mastery to which that party cannot but succumb"].

Mr. HENRY GRATTAN followed, speaking with a view to introduce an amendment of a different description. The house, however, became thin, and the hon. member was little attended to. He addressed himself to Irish miseries and grievances, drawing, as usual, a painful picture of the position of the sister country. His amendment went to pledge the house to apply itself to relieve, as speedily as possible, the distress existing in Ireland, which, it affirmed, augmented the discontent existing among the people. It was seconded by Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL, who, strange to say, applied himself as much to the affairs of the Pope as to the affairs of Ireland. With regard to that unhappy country, he described the present proposals of the government as the very wantonness of tyranny. He observed that the government had not redeemed a single pledge towards Ireland which they had given on accession to office, and he pledged himself to offer to their measure of coercion every opposition which the forms of parliament permitted.

Mr. FAGAN defended the poor-law; but advocated candid and impartial inquiry. He complained that, though agitation had ceased, amelioration had not been substituted for coercion.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL began by expressing his sympathy with Mr. Disraeli's regret for the loss of Lord George Bentinck, and himself paid a tribute to the memory of Mr. Charles Buller. In defending the Ministerial policy in Ireland, Lord John asked the House to suspend its judgment until it should have Lord Clarendon's statement before it. As to the objections urged against the poor-law inquiry, he observed that Ministers had been accused of legislating in ignorance of Ireland; and that out of nine members who met Mr. Grattan to consult on the poor-law, five held different opinions. Several measures of amelioration introduced last session, on the franchise, the law of landlord and tenant, &c., would again be submitted to the House. Mr. Disraeli's statistics were unintelligible; he showed that there had been a great importation of food—a supply which, in the deficiency of food, was desired by Protectionists as well as Free-traders.

That American growers and merchants should gain five millions of profit in the transaction, provided we had the benefit of the food for the consumption of the country, is not a subject of lamentation with me. I think it is only the natural result of commerce, and one which we are not by any means to deplore. Lord John had been in favour of a fixed duty on corn;

But the House not having chosen to adopt that mode—having chosen to set corn entirely free—I hope that no attempt—above all, I hope that no successful attempt—will be made at renewing any duty upon that main article of sustenance.

Lord John gave explanations respecting foreign transactions similar to those offered by Lord Lansdowne; with the further explanation, that the House was not now called upon to congratulate her Majesty, but simply to thank her Majesty for supplying the information; and the perfectly erroneous suppositions of Mr. Disraeli showed how hazardous it was to form an opinion before the necessary documents had been laid before the House. In this explanation Lord John Russell bore testimony to the sincerity and pacific policy of French statesmen.

Although at the commencement of the revolution there were words used in a circular of M. Lamartine which certainly appeared to many individuals dangerous to the peace of Europe, and which were made a great deal of use of—phrases and jargon about assisting a struggling nationality, which might lead to great dangers—yet, I must say, with regard to M. Lamartine, with regard to General Cavaignac, and with regard to the present French Government, and all the Governments we have had to deal with in France, they have listened fairly and frankly to all the representations we have had to make to them. They have stated what they believe to be the interest and the policy of France; and we have no reason whatever to complain, but, on the contrary, reason to rejoice that we have had to deal with men of high honour and pacific views [loud cheers].

With respect to the expenses of military establishments, Mr. Disraeli seemed to be hardly better informed than he was upon our foreign relations.

He seemed to suppose that we had yielded to representations which had appeared in public, addressed to the Financial Association of Liverpool, by the honourable member for the West Riding of Yorkshire. Now, Sir, my opinion is entirely against the opinions contained in that representation. I think, whatever deduction or augmentation you might make, to take the year 1835, or any other fixed year for many years past, and to say that you will square your estimates and fix your establishments according to the expenditure of that year, would be, with great deference to the hon. gentleman, an extremely irrational course of proceeding [cheers from both sides of the House]. In the first place, it is obvious that your requirements may be very different; in the next place, any one who will look at the finance accounts, or the votes of the year, will see that there have been some four or five millions added to our expenditure on grounds which have nothing to do with any increase of our armies. And therefore, in fact, if you take off ten millions, instead of having the same establishment, we shall have some five millions less than in 1835. Again, I am not sure that, even in 1835, the establishment was fixed precisely according to the exigencies of the country. I need not touch that point, because I decline to debate the subject altogether; but it must be assumed by the hon. gentleman, that in 1835 there was proposed the precise estimate which ought to have been made: and then our possessions, for which we have to furnish troops, are very much increased since 1835. In one colony alone, which we have acquired since 1835, I think there were last year 1,800 men of the

infantry of the line. Of course, if you were to take the rule of 1835, you must have certain garrisons diminished below what they were in that year, in order to supply the garrisons of the new colonies you have acquired. I am sure any gentleman engaged in commerce, manufactures, or farming, would never think of adopting such a principle for the conduct of his own business. But, Sir, while I disagree with the opinions of the honourable gentleman—and though I think there are flaws in his letter upon the subject which rather throw discredit upon his common sense, for he says that ten millions was a good sum in former years, and is sufficient for the purposes of the present; and when he speaks thus, I think it is clear he has framed his statement, not according to what the exigencies of the public services require, but in a way which he thinks public meetings will be likely to agree with and to applaud, when they will not listen to a detailed statement by which a smaller sum might be saved, but which would be really founded upon a practical and business-like estimate of our present necessities—at the same time, when we had to consider the question of our establishments, I think it was obvious that we could not persevere in the course we felt ourselves bound to take last year. There was then a sudden and formidable convulsion in various parts of Europe, and no one could say what might be its issue. We did not think we should be justified, under those circumstances, in proposing to diminish our expenditure. We asked for the same number of men for the navy and army for which we had asked at the commencement of the session, although we had not the ways and means sufficient for that establishment. The House supported us in that course; they declared, by large majorities, that it was not expedient to reduce our military establishment. But, Sir, when we had again to consider that subject—when we had again to consider the question of the Estimates exceeding the amount of our revenue, it was our duty, I think, to come to one of two conclusions—either to reduce those Estimates, and to bring them within the amount of revenue, or, on the other hand, to attempt to raise the revenue to the level of our expenditure. It was not fitting to go on every other year increasing the public debt of the country without a prospect of the expenditure being equalised with the revenue. Now, Sir, the first course was evidently the best, supposing it to be a justifiable and practicable course. Upon that subject we had to consider, first, whether there were not many reforms which might be made, many retrenchments which might be effected, without impairing the numbers and efficiency of our military establishments. The committees which sat last year upon our naval and military expenditure, and for the appointment of which (not my own original proposition, I must confess) the House is indebted to the hon. member for Montrose, showed that, as regarded the navy at least, useful retrenchment might be made without impairing the efficiency of the service. There then was one source of economy; but that was not enough to bring our expenditure within the limits I have stated. We had then further to consider whether our effective force could be reduced. Now, in considering that subject, we had to remember, that since we had been in office we had added 3,000 men to the number voted for the navy—we had added 5,000 men to the number voted for the artillery. We came, therefore, to the conclusion that, in the present state of Europe, we might safely make some reduction which would afford a considerable amount of saving without impairing the force below that which is necessary for the efficiency of the public service—which was necessary for the defence of our numerous colonies and possessions. Whether we have done wisely in that respect—whether the reductions that we propose come within the principle I have stated—whether we have carried them too far, or have not gone far enough—will be proper questions for this House to consider when the Estimates shall come before it, and when those of our colleagues who are charged with the various departments shall state their views of the exigencies of the service, and the sums we propose to be taken. But this I will say, that we have fixed them upon the scale of what we think will be wanted for the present year, and what we think can be spared for the force of the present year: we have not selected them with reference to any particular past year, or said that our expenditure must be squared according to the estimates of that one year.

The disposition of recent Governments in France to curtail enlistments and not to increase their forces, is one reason why I think it will be safe to propose no greater estimates than those we propose for the present year. And I do trust, in spite of the denunciations contained in this proposed amendment, that the various nations of Europe, however they may settle their internal affairs, will, by the progress of negotiation and in process of time, come to the conclusion that war must be injurious to them all, and that there is no cause sufficient why one State should be the aggressor against another [loud cheers]. If such sentiments should prevail—if each power is left to make its own arrangements with respect to its own internal constitution—then I should say that the reductions of the present year might be followed out in future years. It would be exceedingly unwise and imprudent to make any great and sudden reduction at once; but gradual reductions—reductions made with a view to what is called in the Speech a wise economy, will be a policy which, I trust, this country may be able to pursue, which would be for her own interest and for that of every country in Europe. Now, Sir, I do not contend that there is no cause for anxiety in the present state of the world. "I am far from thinking that those revolutions which took place last year have run their course, and that each state is now in the enjoyment of assured security and tranquillity. I rejoice as much as any man that the ancient empire of Austria, an old ally of this country, should have been recovering her splendour, and should have shown her strength in so conspicuous a manner: but many questions with respect to the Austrian empire, of great difficulty—questions with respect to the internal constitution of Prussia—questions with regard to the formation of what the honourable gentleman called an empire without an emperor—are still unsettled, and we are not sure what may be the ultimate event. In fact, there has been, within the last year, first, an excessive apprehension, caused by the events which had taken place; then there has been rising up here and there some wild theory, pretending to found the happiness of a state and of mankind upon visionary maxims and unsound speculations, which can never secure the welfare of any state or country. We have, indeed, seen that those hopes were unwise, and that the

issue did not answer the expectations which had been formed in the case of many countries of Europe. No one could say that events might not, at some unforeseen moment, take a course unpropitious for the maintenance of European peace. But still I do think that the time which has elapsed since the first outbreak of these revolutions has tended to make men consider more soberly what is the value of real freedom, and what is the value of peace in the world, to be set against political change, and how much may be sacrificed, and ought to be sacrificed.

"In the mean time, Sir, I do appeal against this proposed disarmament, not by any carping at the particular terms which may be used, nor by going into a minute defence of every act of the Government, but as feeling generally what has been happening around us, and what is our present state. We have gone through a commercial convulsion, arising chiefly from a wild spirit of speculation. Is our trade at the present moment shaken to the dust, or is it true that it is reviving? Is it true or not that it is assuming a healthy tone, and may we not hope that it will take its usual course to a state of restored prosperity? We have put down what, in spite of the hon. member for Meath, I must call an insurrection in Ireland: tranquillity has been restored. Has this object been effected by any sanguinary measures? Has it been restored by arming one class of the population against another, and by fixing upon Ireland a permanent state of civil war, which would be incalculably worse than a transitory insurrection? I reply boldly, that it has not. I reply, that my noble friend at the head of the Government of Ireland showed vigour and energy; he showed, also, that which is still more rare than vigour and energy—he showed singular judgment, temperance, and forbearance; he showed himself averse, from the first, to anything like setting class against class, or the infliction of sanguinary punishments. Well, Sir, I say again, this country has been menaced by those who, as in other countries, would, for the sake of plunder, have disturbed the whole order of society. I ask, Have not they been defeated in their machinations? have not they been defeated by the usual exercise of law, as regular, and, at the same time, as firm and merciful in its proceedings, as was consistent with the constitution of this country? [cheers]. I ask, has this country been involved in foreign hostilities?—has there ever been any danger of it? Has not peace in Europe been preserved by this country? and as regards other powers, have we not shown our disposition at least to guarantee terms which would be honourable to the contending parties, rather than to mix in the fray and excite those various powers to conflict and war? [cheers]. If I can say that these things are true—if I am not to be contradicted as to the facts, admitting as I do that with respect to the greater portion of them the highest praise is to be given to the energies, the prudence, and the wisdom, of this mighty people—yet I do say, if such be the results, that the Government which has been at the head of affairs at least deserves this, not to be condemned on the first night of a session."

Mr. EDMUND BURKE ROCHE disapproved of any proposals to limit the area of poor-law taxation in Ireland, or to make a more stringent law of settlement. The true cheap government for Ireland would be, to do her justice and develop her industrial resources.

Mr. HUME, at that hour, would only notice some omissions in the speech.

Government had promised him that during the recess they would consider measures for equalizing and lightening the burdens of taxation; yet the subject was not even mooted in the speech or the address. Was there to be any investigation into the taxation of the country? In reference to Mr. Disraeli's protest against concessions on the point of popular representation, he asked if Ministers meant to take their stand on the present representation, and refuse all concessions? He wished also to know what are the views of the Government on the subject of our colonies; the late management of some of which had been most disgraceful. Not one of the acts which had driven the Americans to rebellion had been characterised by half the atrocity and tyranny of the arbitrary proceedings which had taken place in British Guiana and Ceylon [hear, hear]. He considered that the noble earl at the head of the colonies had forfeited every claim to support, and that her Majesty's Government should at once remove him [cheers].

The House divided on Mr. Grattan's amendment, and it was negatived by 200 to 12. The debate on Mr. Disraeli's amendment was adjourned.

Mr. STAFFORD resumed the adjourned debate on Friday evening. For some time the hon. member appeared scarcely to know what turn to give to the discussion he had been so instrumental in renewing. At length he went off upon the Irish poor-law, on which subject he taunted the Cabinet with want of unanimity. This brought up Sir W. SOMERVILLE, who declared that Ministers had done all they promised at the end of last session, which "all" was—to institute inquiry. Sir J. B. WALSH, upon this, properly expressed a hope that a question of such importance would not be got rid of by reference to a committee.

The next speech was from Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, who spoke with vigour in defence of the administration.

He condemned Mr. Disraeli for his attack upon the Government, and declared it to be based not only upon limited knowledge, but absolutely upon positive misinformation. The amendment was a departure from that generous treatment which Government had hitherto received from the other side. He vindicated the foreign policy of the Government from Mr. Disraeli's attack, especially as regarded the Sicilian and Lombardo-Venetian questions.

Viscount MANDEVILLE followed with a brief but ineffective maiden speech. He was succeeded by Mr. HORSMAN, who made a damaging attack upon the existing system of government in two of its departments.

He commenced by referring to the amendment, which he declared he should oppose, because he believed that the legislation of 1846 had saved us from most appalling perils, and might be expected to secure for us vast

future advantages. He then passed to the question of economy, and expressed a hope that any measures of reduction proposed would be effective, and such as would satisfy his friends around him. His next reference was to our foreign policy. He observed that the secrecy and irresponsibility of the foreign department was the real reason why so little interest was felt in foreign affairs either in or out of the House. The doors of Downing-street were closed to all inquiry. When secrets did ooze out—as in the case of Spain—it was found that the way business was conducted was by two sets of despatches, one for the ambassador, the other for the Parliament. But the people would not remain indifferent long. They were indifferent to nothing which affected their pockets, and they had already learnt to feel that the most terrible invasion they had to expect was the invasion of the tax-gatherers. On the subject of the colonies he expressed his extreme surprise that there should have been as little reference in the Speech to our dependencies as if we had no colonies at all. The speech spoke of "progressive improvement," "revival of trade," "public tranquillity," "retrenchment and economy,"—did all this apply to our colonies? On the contrary, as far as he could collect, they were the scene of nothing but confusion, strife, and blundering. A Governor Grey, who was scolded in Jamaica, retorted by convicting of ignorance a Grey in Downing-street, who, in his turn, convicted another Governor Grey of mal-administration in another colony [cheers and laughter]. In fact, in all his reading, he had never met with a period during their British connexion when the colonies were treated with so much blindness and contempt as by the Minister who not only excepted them from the royal sympathy, but absolutely seemed to remove them from the royal cognizance.

This speech was loudly cheered.

Mr. FRANCIS SCOTT, who rose next, complimented the speaker, and addressed himself to his remarks regarding the colonies, which he seemed to think even less severe than the facts would have justified. Colonel SIBTHORP then amused the House with one of those mirth-moving tirades in which he sometimes displays his peculiarities. He described the Government as "underhand, deceitful, full of fraud, trickery, and subtlety," but still, said he, "I am not in the habit of using strong language." Respecting economy, he intended to support it, and he gave notice that the reduction he should propose was "a reduction in the salaries of our over-fat, highly-fed, and lazy ministers." Of such as this is "the fun" of the House of Commons.

Sir DE LACY EVANS is not usually good at a joke, but he caused some laughter by asking if Lord John Russell was the "over-fat and over-fed Minister" referred to? Captain HARRIS, who followed, and spoke for twenty-five minutes, did not say anything half so amusing, though he touched on almost every conceivable topic. This gentleman was followed by Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE, who spoke with more effort than success:—

He complained that there were indications in the speech from the throne of an intention on the part of Government to be influenced by a pressure from without. It was evident to him that Mr. Cobden meant something more than retrenchment—he meant to organize a force to override the legislature, and dictate to a British House of Commons. He then diverged into an attack upon Messrs. Cobden and Bright; quoted passages from their speeches to prove that they aimed less at retrenchment than disarmament; and concluded by denouncing the new league which they had organized.

Mr. BANKES succeeded in a rambling, unconnected speech of thirty minutes, than which nothing could be more dull. No new idea was enunciated, and the old ones were anything but interestingly presented. It was quite a relief when he gave way even to Mr. URQUHART, who rose, amid a general groan, which was converted into a laugh as he opened, by declaring that he really "could not give a silent vote." Mr. URQUHART addressed himself to the foreign policy of the country, and warned the country that they would be ultimately dragged down by their Foreign Minister.

Viscount PALMERSTON rose next:—

He said the object of the movers of the amendments was to record their opinion against the principles of free-trade. It would be more fair that that opinion should be expressed by substantive motion than that the House should be tricked into assenting to it by an amendment to an address. The first paragraph of the amendment regretted that the House could not congratulate the Sovereign on her foreign relations. Why, who asked them to congratulate the Sovereign? [opposition laughter.] It would be highly improper to commit the House to any such expression, and the Address had been studiously drawn to avoid it. But the speech from the throne promised them papers upon these topics: ought they not to wait and see what those papers contained? He would boldly affirm, for his part, that the House might congratulate her Majesty on her foreign relations. The maintenance of peace by England, and, if possible, the prevention of war by other countries, should be the great objects of our foreign policy, and, upon both those results we had, at this time, to congratulate ourselves, and might congratulate the Queen. What the opposition appeared to be offended at was, that we were on amicable terms with France. They thought, perhaps, that Republican France was not sufficiently good company for monarchical England. But what business was it of ours to inquire if France had an emperor, or a monarch, or a president, or a consul? Our duty was to cement the ties of amity and friendship with our nearest neighbour. Reason and calm reflection would teach both the rulers and the nations themselves that it was for the good of both to cultivate amicable relations, and he felt it due to the public men at the head of the Government of France to say that their conduct had been characterised by the sincerest good faith, and the most friendly dispositions ever since it had been his duty to communicate with them. Then came the "mediation." He pleaded guilty to the crime of being engaged in mediations. Fortunately his efforts in that direction had been attended with much success. The Earl of Aberdeen was entitled also to his share of the praise and blame of entering into such mediations, and he hoped

the amendment would give him his due. They had mediated between Denmark and Holstein; that mediation had prevented a European war. They had mediated between Austria and Lombardy; that had prevented a war in Italy. They had mediated between Naples and Sicily under circumstances of which he drew an elaborate picture, and had checked atrocities which would have disgraced the most barbarous nations. These were their crimes. That they had prevented war was their great offence. The war party now sat upon the other side. The member for Cockermouth complained that the proceedings of the Foreign-office were involved in a secrecy which mortified his curiosity. It would no doubt be exceedingly amusing to members to have the run of the Foreign-office, the pick of the papers, and the latest despatches delivered with the votes. In the first place, that suggestion was opposed to the principle of our constitution; but, in the second, the very publicity Mr. Horsman desired would, in ninety-nine out of every hundred cases, be fatal to accommodation between nations [hear, hear]. The Government, then, were arraigned as the promoters of peace—they were charged by the advocates of war—he left the House to decide between them, and he anticipated their verdicts with every confidence.

The noble lord, on resuming his seat, was loudly cheered.

The Marquis of GRANBY moved an adjournment, against which Lord JOHN RUSSELL seriously protested, and divided the House. There appeared, for the adjournment, 80; against it, 221.

As the House was tolerably full—containing more than 300 members—of which number the Protectionists only divided 80, it became evident that a division upon the amendment itself would only further display the weakness of the party. Mr. DISRAELI accordingly came to the table, and said that as he understood there would be other opportunities of debating each of the topics which entered into this discussion, he thought it unnecessary to give the House the trouble of going to a division on the Address itself.

This announcement, made in a low tone, was received with ironical cheers and laughter; and the motion for the Address was immediately put and carried, and a committee appointed to prepare the same.

On Monday, upon the bringing up of the report upon the Address,—

The Marquis of GRANBY made a few observations upon some of the topics in the Royal speech; and was followed by

Mr. BANKES, who exposed the unfavourable indications of the revenue, at which the House was perversely called upon to express its satisfaction. He inquired as to the truth of the report that the Brazils had raised their customs duties on some of our manufactures to an almost unlimited extent; and, if so, on what articles?

Mr. M. GIBSON believed it was true that the Brazils threatened us with high differential duties, and that the trade of England with that country was not in so satisfactory a state as it might be, but that was owing to our hostile policy in reference to the slave-trade. Though we had not yet overcome the effects of our previous restrictive policy, he believed trade and manufactures were gradually improving under the influence of a more liberal system. The country gentlemen were taking an extraordinary course with reference to their tenant occupiers. They did not ask for protection, and they censured the Government for proposing retrenchment and economy. How could they then hold themselves up as friends of the tenant occupiers, who would be relieved by retrenchment and a reduction of taxation?

Sir J. TYRELL read a rather dull lecture to the gentlemen of the Manchester school, and called upon them to avow what they were really driving at.

Mr. WODEHOUSE, Mr. FREWEN, and Mr. P. BENNET, in succession, drew a lamentable picture of the disastrous effects of the policy of the late and present Ministers upon the agriculture of this country.

Mr. HUME complained that the speech from the Throne was engrossed with foreign affairs, to the exclusion of domestic topics, as if we were the police officers of the world. He then touched upon the various grievances of the United Kingdom and the colonies, which he ascribed mainly to the limited basis of the representation in this country, and concluded by moving certain amendments with reference to the rebellions in Ceylon and the Cape of Good Hope, and the discontent in British Guiana, the Mauritius, and other British colonies, to the excessive amount of taxation, and to the state of the representation.

The amendments were seconded by Mr. BANKES, and supported by Mr. S. CRAWFORD, but were negatived, after an attempt on the part of Mr. CRAWFORD to divide the House, Mr. HUME declining to do so.

ECCLIESIASTICAL REFORM.

On Friday, Mr. HORSMAN asked what measures of ecclesiastical reform were to be introduced this session by Government? If any, what was their proposed character, and when the proposed period of their introduction?

Lord J. RUSSELL replied, that he had considered it expedient to advise the Crown to appoint a Commission, to inquire whether the leasehold property of the Church could be made more available for the spiritual instruction of members of the Church, without infringing on what might be deemed the reasonable claims of the lessees, so that some clear idea might be obtained towards the extension of this great object. It would be impossible to enter into any statement of the intentions of the Government on the subject until the Commission had made some progress in its labours.

Mr. HUME asked whether there would be any

objection to instruct the Commission to inquire what churches existed, and what grants were made to places where there were no congregations. In London, for example, where seven or eight churches would suffice for the resident population, there were seventy or eighty churches. Surely the means wasted in these congregationless places might most advantageously be applied to places where there were congregations ready, but no churches.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, that clearly the subject indicated by the hon. gentleman was one most fitting to be inquired into; but it did not at all appertain to the range of inquiry assigned to the Commission he had mentioned.

Colonel SIBTHORP asked, was the Commission a paid Commission? [laughter.]

Lord J. RUSSELL: No; it was an unpaid Commission. The secretary, indeed, must be paid of course.

Mr. HORSMAN said the Commission was appointed upon certain subjects totally independent of the measures which were promised to be brought forward. He would call the attention of the noble lord to those measures on Monday, for the purpose of asking whether any of them were intended to be brought forward this session.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, he might as well say at once, that her Majesty's Government did not mean to introduce a number of measures which there was no prospect of carrying. The notices already given upon the part of members of the Government would occupy the attention of the House for a very considerable time.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the Commons, on Monday, after an interlude by Mr. J. O'CONNELL, which consumed half an hour, and was no inappropriate introduction to the matter which followed,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL rose, agreeably to notice on Thursday, to move certain sessional resolutions, with the view of accelerating the progress of public business in this House. The particular resolutions which may be characterised as substantially new are (as afterwards amended) to the following effect:—

That when any bill is presented by a member, pursuant to an order of the House, or brought from the Lords, the question that it be "read a first time," or that it be "printed," shall be decided without debate or amendment.

That when a bill has been partly considered in committee (except supply or ways and means), and the chairman has reported progress and asked leave to sit again, and the House has ordered its sitting on a particular day, the Speaker, when the order is read, shall leave the chair without putting the question.

That, at the close of the proceedings of a committee of the whole House on a bill, the chairman shall report the bill forthwith, and the amendments shall be received without debate.

That the House will not insist upon its ancient undoubted privileges, in certain cases, with respect to any bill brought or returned from the Lords with amendments affecting any pecuniary penalty, forfeiture, or fee.

The noble Lord detailed the reasons upon which these resolutions were founded, and the advantages which might be expected from their adoption, in expediting public business, without limiting the power of free discussion.

Mr. GOULBURN, Sir R. INGLIS, and other members, suggested alterations in the wording of the resolutions; and Mr. HUME felt the pulse of the House as to the limitation of speeches—a proposal, he said, he had made in the committee, but could get no member to second it. There seemed, however, to be no response to this proposal.

Sir E. WILLOUGHBY suggested that no fresh order of the day should be discussed after twelve o'clock at night.

Mr. VERNON SMITH considered that the resolutions did not hit the real cause of the delay of business in this House, which arose from protracted discussions and incessant adjournments; and he called upon Mr. Brotherton to propose a resolution which he had proposed in the committee unsuccessfully upon this subject.

Mr. BROTHERTON hesitated to bring forward such a resolution until he could be assured that it would meet with general acceptance.

A modification of the last resolution, confining it to bills imposing pecuniary penalties or fees for local purposes, was proposed by Sir R. INGLIS, but objected to by Lord J. RUSSELL, and negatived.

Mr. HERRIES, Sir R. PEEL, Mr. BERNAL, Mr. H. DRUMMOND, Mr. WALPOLE, and other members, spoke upon these resolutions, which were agreed to with the very general concurrence of a full House.

Upon another resolution, "That after the 1st of May, orders of the day shall have precedence of notices of motions on Thursdays,"

Mr. M. GIBSON moved a resolution limiting speeches to one hour, with an exception in favour of members introducing original motions, and of Ministers of the Crown speaking in reply.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the motion, observing that this proposition had been made in the committee, and it was thought inexpedient to adopt it. Possibly, there might come a time when it would be imperative upon the House to impose such a restraint upon the garrulity of members; but he did not see how a positive rule could be laid down, making a definition exempting some members, that would do justice to all. It would be better to allow no exception whatever. He hoped that the discretion of members would render any restriction unnecessary.

Sir R. PEEL observed that it seemed to be the general impression in the House that there was a tendency amongst its members to make speeches of undue length, and if every member would act upon that impression, it would be infinitely better than to lay down a dry rule. He had heard speeches from Mr. Plunkett, Mr. Canning, and other members of the House, in which there was not a redundant word, and of which such a rule would have deprived the House and the public.

Mr. HUME was quite willing to enter into an agreement never to speak longer than twenty minutes if the right hon. baronet would do so too.—This offer, which occasioned considerable laughter, was not, however, accepted.

Sir R. INGLIS spoke against the motion, which was supported by

Mr. COBDEN, who said that the House was flooded with repetitions, and that such a rule would improve the quality of speeches, which were too diffuse. If a member had anything to say, he might very well say it in an hour.

He thought that nothing could be more clear than that members, as the right hon. gentleman had said, too often repeated the arguments of other members. He could conscientiously declare that he had dozens and scores of times intended to speak, but, having found everything he had to say said much better by others, he had abstained from speaking [hear, hear]. But it was well known that that was not the general rule [hear, hear]. After noticing the objections of Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel to the proposed exceptions to the rule, the hon. gentleman proceeded to say, that he thought that by limiting the time of speaking they would improve the quality of the speeches; for at present hon. members too often overloaded their speeches with quotations from letters and books and the reports of *Hansard*, to which all the members had equal access, and which were therefore quite unnecessary. He felt quite sure that if a member had anything to say he could say it in an hour. It was only those who had nothing to say, or did not know what to say, that spoke more. The case of Mr. Burke, which had been alluded to, was a very unhappy instance; for it was recorded that he generally emptied the House when he rose. He was called the "dinner-bell" of the House; and it was said that

"He went on refining
And thought of convincing while they thought of dining;"

and he thought every one must admit that if Burke's speeches had been cut into four they would have been better speeches [hear, hear].

The House having divided, the numbers were:—
For Mr. Gibson's motion . . . 62
Against it 96
Majority —34

THE IRISH POOR LAW.

On Monday evening, in the House of Commons, Sir W. SOMERVILLE moved for a select committee with a view of inquiring into the operation of the Irish poor-law. When Colonel Dunne moved for such a committee, he thought, and he was now of the same opinion, that an inquiry into a law which had not then been sufficiently tried could not have led to a satisfactory result. The case was different now; he thought the time had now arrived when inquiry would be beneficial; the Government, who adhered to the main provisions of the present law, had proposed inquiry at the earliest period, and had they offered to legislate without inquiry, eloquent denunciations would have been launched at their forfeiture of the pledge they had given last session.

Mr. F. FRENCH declared that the Irish Poor-law was universally detested by the paupers as well as farmers. From various details he inferred the inequality of its operation; mortgages and annuities were exempted, whilst landlords were ruined, and industry and capital were leaving the country.

Mr. FAGAN, who supported the motion, gave an amusing account of the differences of opinion amongst Irish members on the subject of the poor-law. Mr. BLACKALL, Mr. BRIGHT, and Mr. STAFFORD, likewise spoke in favour of the motion, the two latter insisting upon the absolute necessity of grappling with the land question, and so developing and stimulating the resources of the country that it should be able to support the population, which some districts and counties in Ireland were not in a condition to do.

Colonel DUNNE was sure that if his motion had been acceded to last session, many of the evils created by the present law would have been avoided. Under the working of this law, which paralyzed industry, the whole property of the country was melting away.

Mr. SADLER supported the motion, but wished the Government to state what were the remedial measures which they proposed should accompany the poor-law.

Sir G. GREY wished the hon. member would represent any case of arrears of rate uncollected through the unwillingness, not the inability, of ratepayers, to the commissioners, who had never shown any indisposition to enforce payment. The other points alluded to in the debate were proper subjects for the consideration of the committee, into which the Government did not intend to go with any intention of impairing or altering the great principle upon which the poor-law was founded.

Mr. HERBERT, Sir L. O'BRIEN, Mr. MONSELL, and Mr. GRATTAN, co-operated with the other Irish members in their attack upon the unfortunate law; whilst Mr. S. CRAWFORD traced the emigration of farmers and the flight of capital from Ireland to the want of security for the improvements in the land.

Mr. ST. GEORGE and Mr. P. SCORR closed the discussion, and the motion was agreed to. In the House of Lords, on Friday, Lord Lansdowne is to make a similar motion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE WOODS AND FORESTS COMMITTEE, of which Lord Duncan is Chairman, was re-appointed on Friday.

NEW WRITS were issued on Friday for County Donegal and the Cardigan district of Burghs.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.—In answer to Mr. HUME, on Friday, Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated, that the Lord Chancellor, who had charge of the bill for the better

administration of charitable trusts, had every intention of proceeding with it.

FARMING OUT PAUPER CHILDREN.—Colonel SIBTHORP asked whether Government intended to make an inquiry into the late lamentable case of pauper children, who had been so brutally treated by the man who farmed them? Lord J. RUSSELL could assure the hon. and gallant gentleman, that the Government were fully determined to make the fullest inquiry into the matter, and to take every means in their power to prevent a recurrence of such horrors.

CALL OF THE HOUSE.—Mr. H. GRATTAN gave notice, that he should move a call of the House upon the motion for the continuing the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland.

RAJAH OF SATTARA.—In reply to Mr. HUME, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said it was quite true that the Court of Directors, in conjunction with the Board of Control, had sent over instructions to the local authorities to resume, on the part of the Government, the territories occupied by the late Rajah of Sattara; but he did not perceive how this step could be described as any deposition of the legal heir, seeing that there was no legal heir.

SUSPENSION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT IN IRELAND.

—On Friday, her Majesty's Ministers presented to Parliament copies of a letter from the Earl of Clarendon to Sir George Grey, in which his Excellency states the grounds on which he rests his application for the renewal of the extraordinary powers entrusted to him by the act of last session, which, unless renewed, will expire on the 1st of March next. The most lenient use, consistent with the public safety, appears to have been made of these powers. The number of individuals against whom they have been put in force is not more than one hundred and twenty in all. While, however, the salutary restraints which these formidable powers have put upon the turbulent, have been hailed with universal satisfaction by the well disposed, his Excellency is constrained to say, that he perceives no indication of sorrow or repentance, and has no reason to believe that the recent orderly conduct of the people in the formerly disturbed districts proceeds from any improved feeling towards either law or government.

ESCAPE FROM SHIPWRECK OF A MISSIONARY'S WIFE AND CHILDREN.

—The only passengers on board the "Tigress," from Ceylon to London, Captain Linton, which went ashore under Shakspeare Cliff, near Dover, at two o'clock, A.M., on Monday, the 22nd January, were Mrs. Kessen, the wife of Dr. Kessen, Wesleyan Missionary at Colombo, and her three infant children and nurse. The darkness of the night increased their peril, and though guns were repeatedly fired, such was the state of the tide that no boat could approach them for several hours, and it appeared very doubtful whether any life could be saved. When Mrs. Kessen left the vessel, there were two feet of water in the cabin, and it appeared very doubtful whether any of her luggage could be saved. The ministers and friends in Dover showed Mrs. Kessen and family every kindness, and by a merciful providence the alarm and inconvenience attendant on shipwreck, appear to be the only personal injury sustained. The greater part of the luggage has been recovered; some of it has been lost with the cargo. We regret to say that the vessel has become a total wreck. She was one of the finest vessels in the Ceylon trade, and was the property of Messrs Tindal, of London; she was laden with an unusually valuable cargo of cinnamon, and other Ceylon produce. She had not met a day's unfavourable weather during the whole voyage, which had been accomplished in fifteen weeks.

SEIZURE OF THE PORTRAIT OF CHARLES I.

—On Thursday, it was rumoured that the portrait of Charles I., lately on exhibition at Tait's Royal Saloon, Princes-street, had been seized by a Sheriff's officer, at the instance of the trustees of the Earl of Fife, from whose collection it was alleged to have been stolen, or at least surreptitiously obtained. On making inquiry into the matter, we ascertained that the picture was seized on Wednesday afternoon, at the instance of the parties alluded to, and conveyed to the Sheriff's office in the County Buildings, where it still remains. Some proceedings took place on Thursday before the Sheriff, in connexion with the case, but of what nature has not been allowed to transpire. The case, it is understood, was delayed, in order that an investigation might be made into the history and pedigree of the painting. From a pamphlet published by Mr. Snare, of Reading, the exhibitor of the picture, it appears that he bought the portrait (which he alleges to be the long-lost original, painted by the Spanish artist, Velasquez, in 1613, while Charles, then Prince of Wales, was on a matrimonial visit at Madrid), some years ago, for the trifling sum of £8, at a sale of paintings at Redley-hall, then occupied as an academy by Mr. Rent. He subsequently ascertained, in the course of his researches to prove the validity of the portrait, that it was at one time in the possession of the Earl of Fife, from whose catalogue he even adduces evidence to substantiate his statements as to its identity.—*Scottish Press*.

REPRESENTATION OF LEOMINSTER.—Mr. Phillimore finally abandoned the contest for Leominster on Thursday, issuing an address declaring that his late appearance now made it certain he could not succeed. Mr. Peel remains unopposed.

The ship "Atlantic," bound from Liverpool to New Orleans, and having four hundred emigrants on board, has been wrecked on the shore near Ardrossan: the ship went to pieces after a time, but all the people had been previously landed.

THE CALIFORNIAN GOLD FINDERS.

The accounts continue to increase in interest. The *New York Herald* introduces a highly interesting letter from a correspondent at Monterey, California, with the following mysterious paragraph:—"We have also received a private and confidential letter, which contains intelligence so astounding concerning the gold regions that we forbear giving it to the public at this time, lest they should not credit it, and might only laugh at us for our pains, and accuse us of attempting to hoax and deceive the public."

The *Herald* then goes on to declare that there were strong reasons for believing that Governor Mason and all his officers, men, mules, and waggons, were engaged digging on the banks of the Sacramento river. Colonel Stephenson had also disbanded his regiment, and gone on the like errand. This officer is said to have collected upwards of one million of dollars' worth of gold dust. Captain Marcy, son of the United States Secretary of War, was engaged in the same pursuit. The correspondent's letter, which is dated Monterey, November the 16th, is highly interesting. We give the following extract:—"Mechanics can now get 10 dollars to 16 dollars per day; labourers on the wharfs or elsewhere, 5 dollars to 10 dollars; clerks and storekeepers, 1,000 dols. to 3,000 dols. per annum—some engaged to keep store during their pleasure at 8 dols. per day, or 11b. or 1½lb. of gold per month; cooks and stewards, 60 dollars to 100 dollars per month. In fact, labour of every description commands exorbitant prices. My previous information to you I merely forwarded to your office to open the way to the future belief of your many readers. I had not much expectation of being believed. The idea of mountains of quicksilver only wanting the ingenuity of man to make them pour forth as a stream—of rivers, whose bottoms and banks are of gold, is rather too much to play upon the credulity of New Yorkers or Yankees. I suppose my story passed as an enlarged edition of the *Arabian Nights*, improved and adapted to California. Whether you or your readers took the tale for fiction or truth I know not. Your last paper that has reached us is of April. This I know, the Sandwich Islands, Oregon, and Lower California, are fast parting with their inhabitants, all bound for this coast, and thence to the great 'placer' of the Sacramento valley, where the digging and washing of one man that does not produce 100 troy ounces of gold, 23 carats, from the size of a half-spangle to one pound in one month, set the digger to 'prospecting,' that is, looking for better grounds. Your 'Paisano' can point out many a man who has, for fifteen to twenty days in succession, bagged up five to ten ounces of gold a day. Our placer, or gold region, now extends over 300 or 400 miles of country, embracing all the creeks and branches on the east side of the river Sacramento and one side of the San Joaquin. In my travels I have, when resting under a tree and grazing my horse, seen pieces of pure gold taken from crevices of the rocks or slate where we were stopping. On one occasion, nooning or refreshing on the side of a stream entirely unknown to diggers or 'prospectors,' or, rather, if known, not attended to, one of my companions, in rolling in the sands, said, 'Give me a tin pan; why should we not be cooking in gold sands?' He took a pan, filled it with sand, washed it out, and produced in five minutes two or three dollars' worth of gold, merely saying, as he threw both pan and gold on the sand, 'I thought so.' Perhaps it is fair that your readers should learn, that however plenty the Sacramento valley may afford gold, the obtaining of it has its disadvantages. From the 1st of July to the 1st of October, more or less, one-half of the people will have fever and ague, and intermittent fever. In the winter, it is too cold to work in the water. Some work in the sand by washing from the surface in a wooden bowl, or tin pan; some gouge it out from the rocks or slate; the more lazy ones roll about and pick up the large pieces, leaving the small gold for the next emigration. The extent of the gold region on the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers extends a distance of 800 miles in length by 100 in width. It embraces not only gold, but quantities of quicksilver in almost general abundance. It is estimated that a small population actively engaged in mining operations in that region could expect 100,000,000 dollars in gold in every year, and that an increased population might increase that amount to 300,000,000 dollars annually. You may believe me when I say that for some time to come California will export, yearly, nearly or quite 500,000 ounces of gold, 22 to 24 carats fine; some pieces of that will weigh 16lb., very many 11b. Many men who began last June to dig gold with a capital of 50 dollars, can now show 5,000 dollars to 15,000 dollars."

The *Washington Union* contains a letter from Lieutenant Larkin, dated Monterey, November 16, received at the State Department, containing further confirmation of the previous despatches, public and private, and far outstripping all other news in its exciting character. The gold was increasing in size and quality daily. Lumps were found weighing from 11b. to 21b. Several had been heard of weighing as high as 16lb., and one 25lb. Many men who were poor in June were worth 30,000 dollars by digging and trading with the Indians. 100 dollars a-day is the average amount realized daily from July to October. Half the diggers were sick with fevers, though not many deaths had occurred among them. The Indians would readily give an ounce of gold for a common calico shirt—others were selling for ten dollars each in specie. The gold regions extend over a tract of 300 miles, and it was not known that it did not extend 1,000.

A letter from Commodore Jones states, that many of the petty officers and men had deserted and gone in search of the gold. He adds, the Indians were selling gold at 50c. the ounce. Many vessels were deserted by captain, cook, and seamen. The ship "Isaac Walton" offered discharged soldiers 50 dollars per month to go to Callao, which was refused. She was supplied by Government sailors. All the naval vessels on the coast were short of hands. Nearly the whole of the 3rd Artillery had deserted. Provisions were scarce and high; board, 4 dollars a day; washing, 6 dollars a dozen. Merchants' clerks get from 2,000 dollars to 3,000 dollars a year.

From all the States of the Union, vessels crowded with passengers were sailing daily. Even vessels of the very worst description were eagerly bought at very high prices. Amongst the emigrants from New York we notice the name of Frederick Jerome, late seaman of the "New World" packet ship.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

THE WINDSOR THEATRICALS.—The Queen has presented to Mr. Charles Kean, through the hands of the Hon. Colonel Phipps, a splendid diamond ring, and has expressed to him in person her approbation of his professional exertions, as well as of the complete success that has attended his direction of the late Windsor Castle theatricals.

THE NEW BISHOP FOR CHINA.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of the nomination of the Rev. George Smith (formerly incumbent of Marr, and resident at Adwick-hall) as first bishop of the new see of Victoria, in Hong Kong.—*Doncaster Gazette*.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL gave a Parliamentary dinner on Wednesday evening, at which were present, the Right Hon. the Speaker; the mover and seconder of the Address; several of the Cabinet Ministers; officers of the Queen's household, &c. &c. The Marquis of Lansdowne, as President of the Council, gave a similar entertainment to the Peers.

LORD STANLEY, as leader of the opposition in the House of Peers, gave a grand political entertainment the same evening, at his residence in St. James's-square. The following noblemen were present:—The Duke of Richmond, the Duke of Beaufort, the Duke of Montrose, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Winchelsea, the Earl of Sandwich, the Earl of Essex, the Earl of Eglinton, Earl of Kinnoull, Lord Redesdale, Lord Colchester, &c.

KEEPING ALOOF.—It has been remarked that the Peel party had no dinner meeting, or other meeting, preparatory to the opening of the session, and none of the more prominent members of that party took any part in the debate in either House. From this it is inferred that the Peelites are waiting to join the Ministry at the first convenient opportunity.—*Standard*.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.—The Queen Dowager has presented the sum of £200 towards the general funds of the National Society, and £50 towards the Welsh fund.

THE HOME-OFFICE.—Mr. Noble, one of the senior clerks in the Home-office, has retired after a service of fifty-three years. Mr. Walpole and Mr. Mills, we hear, will follow his example. The usual promotions by seniority will take place in the office, but the vacancies created will not lead to any new appointment, by which a reduction and saving will be thus accomplished.—*Observer*.

SIR C. NAPIER.—We hear that Lieut.-General Sir Charles Napier, the hero of Scinde, is likely to go out immediately to India as Commander-in-Chief.—*British Army Dispatch*.

THE RAILWAY KING.—Mr. Hudson has received a snubbing at the hands of a Cumberland jury. Mr. Hudson, some time ago, became the purchaser or lessee of the Newcastle and Carlisle and Maryport and Carlisle Railways. Mr. Hudson's purchase of the two lines named was, to the people of Carlisle, a matter of no slight interest. By his possession of them, he has the power of promoting or retarding the prosperity of the city to an extent of no small importance. The public of Carlisle had flattered themselves for some time that the day was not distant when all the railways, which so happily converge within their city, would be amalgamated in one general station. The plan had been approved of by all to make use of one united station. On the faith of this general concurrence, the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway Company incurred the expense of erecting one of the most splendid and commodious stations in the kingdom. But Mr. Hudson steps in and mars all. He repudiates the bargain of the Maryport and Carlisle Company, whose property he has obtained; he refuses to join in the general station; and he sets up a claim for £100,000 for a piece of land required for the uses of the joint station, which was dearly valued by his predecessors at £6,000! A Cumberland jury has very properly settled the question of value. The jury stated that they found the sum of £7,171 4s. 3d. to be the value of the land; but they did not award any compensation for damages. The Lancaster Company having offered less than the amount of the verdict (viz. £7,005) previous to the trial, this decision will throw upon that company the costs of the inquiry.—*Carlisle Journal*.

THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER UNION have issued an address to Mr. Cobden, in which, after signifying their approval of the position he has taken up, they urge him to add to his scheme of diminished taxation, the repeal of the newspaper stamp duty.

LITERATURE.

THE PERIODICALS (FEBRUARY).

TAIT'S MAGAZINE opens with a smartly-written notice of Guizot's work on "Democracy in France," in which the author is sketched with a bold hand. M. Guizot, it is said, "wants a heart. He reasons, and does not feel; he speculates, but does not sympathize. All his yearnings are towards the past; all his eloquence—and he has a great deal of it—is exhausted in eulogizing and exalting those elements in the state whose tendency is antagonistic to progress." TAIT, however, rejoices in the publication of the book, "because its publication cannot fail to enlighten the world on one highly important point, viz., what is the utmost that is to be expected of politicians of the school of Louis Philippe." "Macaulay's History" has afforded abundant matter for extract and comment in another paper. The writer, however, while giving high praise to the work, is less laudatory than the notices we have yet seen:—

"The volumes exhibit a laborious anxiety to avoid partiality or prejudice. The result produced by this anxiety, to be just, is a cold and passionless work. The style is chaste and regular, but not often eloquent. . . . An artistical atmosphere surrounds every page. We want the free outpourings of the writer's heart. He seems to talk with us as under restraint; not from fear to speak the truth, but from the dread that, in speaking resolutely, he seem to compromise the office of the judge."

Gilfillan has contributed, what is for him, an unusually short paper, on "The Poems of Thomas Aird,"—"a volume of genius, and transcendent poetry." The writer dearly loves a digression, and he here states, incidentally, that a subscription is being raised for the erection of a monument, in Westminster Abbey, to the memory of Cowper, and that the movement is under the special patronage of Wordsworth. He has also an angry fling at Mr. Dickens, for refusing to contribute to this object, on the ground, first, that there are many greater than Cowper to whom no monument has been erected; and, secondly, because the public are not admitted gratuitously to the Abbey. The first of these reasons is stated to be untrue, so far as Poets' Corner is concerned; and as for the second, "Dickens is but a 'Cricket on the Hearth,' Cowper was an Eagle of God, and his memory shall be cherished, and his poems read, after the 'Pickwick Papers' are forgotten."

The other and less noticeable articles are,—Mr. St. John's "Tale of the Revolution;" "A Day in the neighbourhood of Loch Skene;" "Condition and Prospects of Philosophy in England;" "State of Music on the Continent;" "The Pestilence, and Sanatory Measures;" the sixth volume of Dr. Chalmers' works; with the usual political and literary registers, railway and mining summary, obituary notices, and an abundance of poetry.

ELECTIC REVIEW.—This is one of the best numbers we have seen for a long time, for of the nine articles which it contains, there is not one which will fail greatly to interest the reader. The "Picture of a Nomination Borough—Stamford," is a highly-edifying exposure of our present electoral system. Of the election committees of the House of Commons it is said:—"These tribunals have been the chief means of the perversion of the constitution of England. They have enabled the Crown and the aristocracy to make the Commons' House their own. Were universal suffrage established to-morrow, with every detail the most zealous stickler for the Charter has ever devised, without a re-construction of the election committees, the rights of the people would not be safe." "Scottish Dissent; real and apparent," calls attention to the present condition of the Scottish Establishment, now "without one redeeming quality to save it from utter contempt;" and, what is more important, "the anomalous position, and impracticable principle, of the Free Church," which is "the greatest obstacle to the progress of Dissent in Scotland, and to the abolition of the State-Church."

"Dissenting in position; voluntary in practice; Anti-state-church in its antipathy to the existing Establishment, yet repudiating, with a fervour almost fanatical, the notion of its being voluntary in principle, or possibly to be confounded in its position and testimony with the other bodies of seceders. . . . So long as the Free Church contends for the principle of a State Church, it encourages men to look upon the State Church, even with a moderate allowance of corruptions and defections, as tolerable, if not respectable."

The appearance of this article contemporaneously with that in the *North British Review*, noticed below, is opportune. The paper on "Peppys's Diary and Correspondence" is very entertaining, and one of the best on the subject which we have yet met with. "Borrer's Campaign in the Kabylie" is a review of a work descriptive of the "perfectly fiendish" atrocities committed by the French army in Algeria, and which the reviewer is "more than ordinarily solicitous" should be generally read. "The Orchids" is the somewhat unpromising title of the next article—but the article itself! Why the pent-up cockney, who has just sufficient knowledge of floriculture to distinguish between a moss-rose and a sunflower, will feel himself constrained to make a pilgrimage

to Messrs. Loddiges, at Hackney, to satisfy himself that the writer is not taking advantage of his greenness in describing "this loveliest of plants." Here is one of its many charmingly enthusiastic passages:—

"What a difficult task remains for the pen that would attempt the expression of orchid loveliness! If the brilliant tints of the palette, while they can give something of the colours, yet fail to convey any adequate impression of the hyaloid lustre and wax-like delicacy of many of the flowers, what can the pen accomplish? Of all genera, the Cattleyas, Sobralias, Stanhopceas, and Oncidiums, are clothed in garments the most exquisite. Here, Tyrian purple melts and flows pale into a snowy field of white, or there a waxen flower blushes up into the deepest rose. Some, by reason of their surpassing beauty, are called by the Peruvians the flowers of Paradise, as if such loveliness never originated on earth. But how shall we describe what only the imagination can conceive, and that imperfectly? Here, while we write, are surrounding us fluttering masses of burnished gold. Here are curious robes of deepest violet, and beyond are racemes resembling a gorgeous field-officer's plume, all bedotted with yellow and red, purple and white. A countless profusion of brilliant tints, shows bravely in contrast with lurid colours and richest green. . . . A vivid imagination may, indeed, supply what we have failed to depict of beauty to our orchid garland. Can any imagination realize their fragrance? Let him whose custom, or whose privilege it is, to wander often through the epiphyte home, give answer. Is there one of our readership with dyspeptic fancies, and out of humour with himself and everything else, let him try our remedy, and spend a pleasant afternoon in the odoriferous society of the Orchids."

"The Pastor's Wife" is a notice of a very interesting biography, viz., that of Mrs. Sherman. "Sterling's Miscellanies," will help to the study of a character worth understanding. "Letters of William III. and Louis XIV.," and "Mr. Noel's Essay," are the subjects of the remaining articles. That last-named is written in a spirit of great moderation, rather than of "frantic gladness." In a letter to the Editor, the writer of the recent article on "The English Review and the Anti-state-church Association," meets Dr. Smith's denial of the quasi-representative character of the *Regium Donum* distributors, by the evidence of Dr. Rees and of Dr. Smith himself.

We find that we must notice the NORTH BRITISH REVIEW with somewhat of brevity. Chaucer and Niebuhr are the subjects of well-written articles. Of the first it is said—"As a poet of character, and as such he must chiefly be viewed, we believe him to come nearer to Shakespeare than any other writer in our language;" and the second is described as "the founder of a new dynasty of Roman historians." The Reviewer of Mr. Macaulay's History, notwithstanding the latitudinarian views of the writer, and his disparagement of Presbyterianism, has "cheated the mind of its usual food, and the body of its usual rest, in order to grasp by one mental effort the great truths which it teaches, and to imbibe the noble lessons which it conveys." The Duke of Argyll's "Presbytery examined," is in its turn subjected to a close examination in a vigorous article. The noble author is complimented on his ability, but his views are spoken of as undigested; and the writer fears that they will at length land him in that "sleepy hollow" of the English aristocracy, the Establishment. The sketch of Campbell the poet, for which the biography recently published is laid under contribution, will be read with interest. "The Prospects of the Session," touches upon a number of topics, with all of which the public are more or less familiar. An opinion is here expressed that the Establishment question is rapidly becoming the question of the times. "The Socialist Party in France," will be found very useful by those who wish to understand French politics. The article on Mr. Noel's secession and book, though we notice it last, was the first to which we turned; curious to see how it would be received by the organ of the Free Church. The chagrin of the writer is clearly shown in the following passage:—

"What we chiefly deplore is the effect which this unhappy ultraism and indecision of tendency must have on the minds of his former brethren. If not deterred from following his example, from the length of the leap he has taken, they must be all the more content to linger with the abuses he has denounced, when it is seen that, in Mr. Noel's opinion at least, there is no intermediate ground, no sure footing, between an outrageous Erastianism, crushing under its iron heel every fibre of life and freedom in the church, on the one hand, and on the other, a nomadic, unorganized Dissenterism; no alternative between an establishment as it now stands, with all its corruptions, and an ecclesiastical revolution which would not only dissolve the Union of Church and State, but dissolve the union of the Church herself, and explode her into ten thousand fragmentary churches, as unlike, as unallied to each other, and the prospective consolidation of which no man could foretell. The English mind seems hitherto unable to devise a middle path between the purest despotism, and the rankest radicalism in ecclesiastical matters. We had hoped to find in Mr. Noel's book, a more moderate scheme of reform projected, which might have reconciled the two extremes; but we are compelled to say, that we despair of him as a leader in any great movement of reformation, when we see him thus merging himself in the confined ranks of existing dissent, descending into the arena single-handed, as the champion, not of a church, but of a chapel, and pleading, with all the ardour of a neophyte, for a system of disunion and disorganization, the utter

impotence of which, for any combined action, even its veteran supporters were beginning to deplore."

The article, too, is remarkable quite as much for the infelicity of its reasoning as the lugubriousness of its tone; e. g.—

"Religion we hold to be a fair subject for legislation—but not the Church. . . . Religion, as being common to both Church and State, ought to be recognised by the latter as the best friend of man and the firmest pillar of society; yet the Church, as being a spiritual and independent kingdom, cannot be legislated for by another kingdom, further than to have her independence acknowledged and settled by law."

But how do our readers think that the reviewer meets Mr. Noel's argument founded upon the irreligious character of the State? Why, by inquiring whether, if the constituencies be as he has described them, the connexion of Christians with the State, as members of it, does not involve as much inconsistency as any union of Church and State!! But having enlarged upon this subject elsewhere, we forbear here.

Leaving the remaining periodicals for another week, we may just briefly note, that THE CHRISTIAN RECORD—which is "The Baptist-Record" under a new name—has, in addition to a lecture by John Foster, and a good paper suggested by Mr. Noel's book, an article on the proposed incorporation of the Baptist Missionary Society, with a copy of the proposed charter, and of the subcommittee's report on the subject. The writer is opposed to the project, but the pages of the magazine are to be open to a discussion. THE CHRISTIAN REFORMER, in animadverting on the "rank intolerance of the attack on the *Regium Donum* in the 'Christian Witness,' and the coarse bigotry" of its editor, tells us that "these are not the men with whom we should think it safe for us to join in an effort to separate Church and State." We have looked into THE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER, to see what that once-famous supporter of the Church had to say about the "Essay on the Union of Church and State;" but, like most of the Church journals, it finds it to be unanswerable, and having nothing to say, it says nothing.

RAGGED SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS.—FOX AND KNOT COURT, SMITHFIELD.—On Tuesday evening, January 30th, a meeting of the friends of this institution was held in the School-room, when the Rev. James Smith, of New Park-street, presided. The Report, read by Mr. Stabb, stated "that there is in active operation, in this dark and depraved neighbourhood, a day-school attended by about 70 infant children, besides a class of more than 30 elder girls, who, for want of space, are obliged to be taught in the same room; but were a larger amount of pecuniary aid afforded, another room might be obtained in which to conduct a British School for girls." The Report also stated "that on the Sabbath about 110 children receive instruction in the Word of God; and in the evening of that day, a devotional service is held, which many of the poor people from this wretched neighbourhood attend, and listen to the preached word with evident and increasing pleasure." Several gentlemen having addressed the meeting, Mr. Tomkins, the city missionary for this district, drew a fearful picture of the debased state of the population in this locality, and described several pleasing instances of usefulness in connexion with this institution. Mr. T. J. Cole, the superintendent of the Schools, after calling upon the friends present for their sympathy and support, suggested the importance of commencing a *People's Bible Class*, to be held weekly, for familiar conversation upon various portions of the Divine Word, and stated that several of the parents were anxious to attend such a class. The suggestion was cordially received; and at the close of the meeting, arrangements were made for holding such a class forthwith.

PARLIAMENTARY CHANGES.—It appears from this year's edition of Mr. Dod's "Parliamentary Companion," that the following elections have taken place during the last twelve months:—At Waterford City, Dublin University, Monmouthshire, Devizes, Kinsale, Lancaster, Dundalk, Aylesbury, Bewdley, Carlisle, Lincoln, Derby, Horsham, Wicklow, Sligo, Cheltenham, Leicester, York City, Cirencester, Cheshire (North), Yarmouth, Thetford, Bolton, Lynn, Yorkshire (West Riding), Liskeard, Truro, Harwich. These alterations give a total of 37 members who had no seats in the House of Commons when the last session of Parliament commenced. Since the publication of the volume, changes will have occurred in the following English boroughs—Bolton, Leominster, Hull, and Portsmouth.

HENRY VINCENT AT SOUTHAMPTON.—Mr. Vincent has delivered the first three lectures on the Commonwealth in this town, to large and influential audiences. A deep interest is excited in the men and principles of that wonderful age.—WINCHESTER.—On Friday night, Mr. Vincent addressed a large body of the inhabitants of this ancient city, on the peace and arbitration movement, and on the necessity for a reform in Parliament, and a reduction of taxation. The meeting was held in the Independent chapel; the Rev. Mr. Thorn presiding. This was Mr. Vincent's first visit, and he met with a hearty reception. He addresses a second meeting on civil and religious liberty, on Wednesday night next.

The great "Free-trade Banquet," held at Manchester on Wednesday night, (3,000 present at table), was reported in the *Times* "by telegraph" on Thursday morning, to the extent of two columns and a half.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

MR. EMERSON ON ENGLAND.

Ralph Waldo Emerson lectured before the Boston Mercantile Library Association, December 27th, on "England," giving the results of his observations during his recent visit. He appears to have derived strongly favourable impressions of the English character. He spoke of the steady balance of the qualities of their nature as their great characteristic, and the secret of their success. Everything in England betokens life. The land and climate are favourable to the production and preservation of good men. Mr. E. facetiously remarked that it was against his theory to travel—he did not like it, and in most cases he believed it disadvantageous to the literary man. Running up hills and over valleys he believed the office a wheel, not of man. But he had profited by his trip to England.

He referred to the elements of that power which the English now hold, and have held for centuries. After looking at her manufactories, scattered all over the land, her commerce, her agriculture, her arts, and witnessing the stupendous results which have been wrought out, one is convinced that if he would see the best development of common sense, (the standard sense) he must go to England to witness it. The land, in every part so like a garden, shows the triumph of labour; the fields look as if finished with the pencil, and not the plough. Every arable spot has been cultivated, and everything turned to the best possible use.

England, indeed, is a huge mill, a grand hotel, where everything is provided to one's mind. On the railroads we ride twice as fast, and with one-half the shaking that we do upon our roads. All England is a machine—everybody moves on a railway—no Englishman ever touches the ground. England has the best working climate in the world; it is never hot or cold; their winter days are like our November days in the early part of the month. The only drawback which Mr. Emerson mentioned was the dark grey colour of the sky, which renders day and night too nearly alike, and makes it painful at times to read and write. To this must be added the dark, dense smoke of many of the manufacturing towns; this smoke pervading and completely enveloping at times every surrounding object.

England has all the materials for a working country—iron, coal, &c., excepting wood.

The Englishman enjoys great health and vigour of body. They are larger than Americans. One hundred Englishmen taken at random, would probably weigh one quarter more than the same number of Americans, taken in the same manner; and yet the skeleton is said not to weigh more. The Englishman is plump, round, and full, and presents a stout, respectable, and grandfatherly figure. The women, even, have thick-set forms, and seldom a tall spare Englishman is seen. The figures of the days of chivalry carved in stone, some of them nine hundred years old, which adorn the churches all over England, present the same types which characterise the present race. Enjoying vigorous health, they last well, and their animal powers are strongly developed. They are great eaters, and claim that a good supply of food is essential to health. They have more constitutional energy and vigour than we have. Pluck is the national characteristic—the cabman, the porter, the nobleman, the bishop, and even the women have it; the press runs over with it.

An Englishman speaks with his whole body—his elocution is stomachy; an American's is labial. He may growl at the petty annoyances of an hotel, but has abundance of self-command. But the "axes of his eyes" are united to his back-bone, and only move with his trunk. Whoever else may fail, the Englishman will not. He has existed for a thousand years, and will continue to exist, as his character possesses as much energy as ever.

London and England now are in full growth. Birkenhead, opposite Liverpool, grows as fast as South Boston, or Brooklyn, opposite New York. London is enlarging at an alarming rate, even to the swallowing up of Middlesex. The British Museum is not yet arranged; London University is growing as rapidly as one of our western colleges. Everything in England betokens life.

Be sure the Englishman does not build castles and abbeys, but what the nineteenth century demands he builds; docks, wharfs, warehouses, &c., without number. In all that the Englishman does, even to the noise of clearing his throat, he gives evidence of strength. It is not the land for faint hearts.

One thing is very noticeable among the people, and that is, their total neglect of each other. Each man shaves, dresses, eats, walks, and runs, just as he pleases, and his neighbour pays no attention to him, so long as he is not interfered with; and this is not because Englishmen are trained to neglect, but because each man is trained to mind his own business. Personal eccentricities are allowed here, and no one observes them. Each islander is an island himself, reposing in quiet and tranquil waters.

It is very certain that the Englishman has so much confidence in the power of his nation that he cares very little about any other. Swedenborg, who visited England frequently during the last century, and an Italian author, who wrote in 1500, were both quoted in this connexion. The Englishman is handsome, and has always been so. If a handsome foreigner comes among them the people declare that it is a pity he is not an Englishman. This arrogance is his birthright. His praise is to tell you it is "so English" in character, and the highest praise is to say to an acquaintance, "I should not know you from an Englishman." Now this is admirable in some respects.

The English surpass all others in general culture—none are so harmoniously developed. They are quick to perceive any meanness in an individual. And it is reasonable that they should have all those fastidious views which wealth and power are wont to generate. But it is not to be disguised that there is much in English culture that will not bear analysis. It is material, built solely upon wealth, cockneyism, and is most fully exemplified in boxing, racing, gunning, &c., what are called true English sports. They are neat, orderly, and respectable, and have the nicest care of their wines, politics, guns, &c. But these are trifles. The manly forms are attributed to the exercises, such as boating, boxing, and riding, in which they indulge from early youth. The attachment to horses among them is almost universal—they are always on horseback—the hotels are crowded with pictures of races. Betting, not without its uses, causes them to be very exact in their data, and settles everything as a fact.—*New York Daily Tribune.*

THE CHARM OF CLEANLINESS.—A white-yellow cravat or shirt on a man, speaks at once the character of his wife; and be you assured, that she will not take with your dress, pains which she has never taken with her own. Then the manner of putting on the dress is no bad foundation for judging,—if it be carelessly, slovenly, if it do not properly fit. No matter for its mean quality; mean as it may be, it may be neatly and trimly put on; and if it be not, take care of yourself, for, as you will soon find to your cost, a sloven in one thing is a sloven in all things. The country people judge greatly from the state of the covering of the ankles; and if it be not clean and tight, they conclude that all out of sight is not as it ought to be. Look at the shoes; if they be trodden on one side, loose on the foot, or run down at the heel, it is a very bad sign; and, as to slippers, though at coming down in the morning, and even before daylight, make up your mind to a rope, rather than live with a slipshod wife. Oh! how much do women lose by inattention to these matters! Men, in general, say nothing about it to their wives; but they think about it; they envy their luckier neighbours; and in numerous cases, consequences the most serious arise from this apparently trifling cause. Beauty is valuable; it is one of the ties, and a strong tie too; that, however, cannot last to an old age; but the charm of cleanliness never ends but with life itself.—*Cobbett.*

CHURCH DECORATIONS.—“Memorandum extracted by Horace Walpole, from a book preserved in the church of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol.—Memorandum. That Master Cummings hath delivered, the 4th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1470, to Mr. Nicholas Betts, Vicar of Radcliffe, Mose Comteryn, &c. &c. &c., a new sepulchre, well gilt, and cover thereunto, an image of God Almighty rising out of the same sepulchre, with all the ordinance that longeth thereunto; that is to say, a lath made of timber and iron-work thereto. Item. Thereto longeth Heaven, made of timber and stained cloth. Item. Hell, made of timber and iron-work, with devils; the number, thirteen. Item. Four knights, armed, keeping the sepulchre, with their weapons in their hands; that is to say, two spears, two axes, twopaves (shields). Item. Fourpair of angels' wings, for four angels, made of timber, and well painted. Item. The Fadre, the crown and visage; the hell with a cross upon it, well gilt with fine gold. Item. The Holy Ghost, coming out of Heaven into the sepulchre. Item. Longeth to the angels four chevelers (i. e. wigs).”—*Vide Lady Morgan's "Italy,"* note, pp. 267, 268.

GLEANINGS.

Frederick Dickens, brother of “Boz,” has married a lady of the name of “Weller.”

Notwithstanding all the rumours of retirement, marriage, &c., Jenny Lind is engaged for the coming season at her Majesty's theatre.

A MODEL WATER COMPANY.—A water company in Sunderland supplies four hundred poor families, gratis, with service pipes and water-taps in their houses, and with an unlimited supply of water at the rate of one penny per week.

The American Board of Foreign Missions has had an increased revenue during the past year of more than 20 per cent. The amount received into the treasury of the board last year is 254,056 Spanish dollars, exceeding that of the year before by 42,603.

Mr. Feargus O'Connor writes in the *Northern Star*:—“Now then, let me ask you—at the commencement of this year, 1849—how long these things are to continue? how long I am to be the paymaster of the National Land Company, and of the Chartists of the empire? I tell you I cannot stand it, and I will not stand it.”

It is asserted in the *Church and State Gazette*, that Bishop Trower, a Scotch episcopal Tractarian bishop, has excommunicated the Duke of Argyll and Lord and Lady Blantyre for attending the ministrations at Glasgow of the Rev. Mr. Miles, an English ordained clergyman.

JENNY LIND IN NORWICH.—The two concerts at which Mademoiselle Lind assisted lately in this city produced the sum of £1,859 11s., and above £1,250 will remain for the charities when the expenses are paid. This will make an aggregate of more than £12,000 contributed to charitable purposes through the agency of Jenny Lind within the last two months.

The Duke of Buccleuch is now granting sites for Free Churches, and recovering his lost popularity.

La Démocratie Pacifique says that there are now seven large vessels at Bordeaux all bound for California, and that above 1,000 persons have secured passages.

We (*Norwich Mercury*) know it to be the fact that the immediate friends of M. Guizot state in all com-

panies that it was the conduct pursued by Lord Palmerston, in the affair of the Sonderbund, that shook the French monarchy, loosened its whole framework, and prepared its fall.

The *Ulster Gazette* says of the retreat of Shere Singh—

“His lordship of Gough,
Has made him *Shere* off;
And, no doubt, after all,
He will make him *Singh* small!”

“Whilst the native aristocracy of the soil,” remarks the *Cork Examiner*, “are following foreign fashions, Lord Clarendon, an English nobleman, bears testimony to Irish artistic excellence, and, with a sort of un-English wisdom, counsels the following out of our manufacturing capabilities and resources.”

LOUIS PHILIPPE A CHANGELING.—The *Wakefield Journal* states that a Mons. St. Hilaire, formerly editor of *La France*, in a lecture recently delivered at Wakefield, on “The French Revolution,” entered into a lengthy disquisition with the view of showing that Louis Philippe was not Louis Philippe, and asserted that he had seen documents which clearly proved that, two days after the birth of the real Louis, in Italy, he was exchanged for the child of an Italian gaoler, named Carpin, whose son the late Monarch of France was in reality, and not the son of a Duke of Orleans.

A PROPHECY.—This extraordinary range of mountains (the Rocky Mountains, which he called the Shining Mountains) is calculated to be more than 3,000 miles in length, without any considerable intervals; which, I believe, surpasses anything of the kind in the other quarters of the world. Probably in future ages they may be found to contain more riches in their bowels than those of Indostan and Mulaba, or that are produced on the golden coast of Guinea; nor will I except even the Peruvian mines.—*Captain Jonathan Carver's Travels in the North West, in 1777.*

The Bishop of Norwich has presented Jenny Lind with a handsome Swedish Bible, with, we understand, the following verses in the fly-leaf, in English:—“The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.—The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth for evermore.—And this I pray, that your love may abound more and more, in knowledge and in all judgment.—That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere, and without offence, till the day of Christ.”

BIRTHS.

Dec. 19, at Zion Chapel-house, Demerara, the wife of the Rev. T. HENDERSON, of a daughter.

Jan. 27, at Ramsgate, the wife of the Rev. M. DANIELL, of Birmingham, of a daughter.

Feb. 3, at Mitcham, the wife of the Rev. F. TRESTRILL, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 23, at the Old Gravel-pits' Meeting-house, Hackney, by the Rev. J. P. Smith, D.D., the Rev. JOHN EYRE ASHBY, B.A., of Arundel, Sussex, to MARIA, youngest daughter of B. SMITH, Esq., of The Grove, Hackney.

Jan. 25, at the Old Meeting-house, Stanstead, Essex, by the Rev. D. Davies, Mr. J. HAMMOND to Miss MARY ANN BRAND, both of Maunden, Essex.

Jan. 30, at St. Pancras New Church, by the Rev. T. P. Dale, rector of St. Vedast, Foster-lane, JOHN CUNLIFFE PICKERSGILL, Esq., second son of J. Pickersgill, Esq., of Tavistock-square, to HELEN HUTTON, second daughter of the Rev. T. DALE, canon of St. Paul's, and vicar of St. Pancras.

DEATHS.

Jan. 22, in his 73rd year, the Rev. JAMES JACKSON, of Green Hammerton, Yorkshire.

Jan. 25, in the comfort of the truths he had preached to others, and in the affection of his brethren and friends, aged 43, the Rev. E. NEWTON, pastor of the Independent church, Kingsbridge, Devon.

Jan. 26, at Basle, in Switzerland, THOMAS LOVELL BEDDOES, Esq., eldest son of the late Dr. Beddoes, of Clifton.

Jan. 29, at Mulgrave-terrace, Gateshead, after a protracted illness, borne with exemplary resignation, aged 63, Mr. THOMAS GLAHOLM. He was for upwards of thirty years a deacon of the church in Newcastle under the pastoral care of the Rev. A. Reid, and was universally esteemed as a man and a Christian. His end was peace.

Jan. 29, at Sydenham, in her 54th year, SARAH, the beloved wife of the Rev. J. BLACKBURN, minister of Claremont Chapel, Pentonville.

Jan. 30, at Snowhill, FANNY HOOPER BENNETT, the beloved wife of Mr. T. BOURNE, formerly of Westbury, Wilts.

Jan. 30, at Kinnaird Castle, in his 50th year, Sir JAMES CARR-NEGIE, Bart., of Southesk.

Jan. 31, at her residence, Sun Mead-house, Fetcham, Surrey, aged 93 years, Miss SOPHIA CURTIS, deeply regretted by all who knew her.

Jan. 31, aged 9 months, LUCY, infant daughter of the Rev. J. WILLIAMS, Baptist minister, Walsall, Staffordshire.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Market for English funds has been very active since our last, but rather fluctuating. The tone of the debate on Thursday served to depress prices, but the large majority obtained by the Ministers inspired the speculators, and prices rose again. The nature of the advices from the Continent have been little regarded for some days past from the firm stand taken by the French Government; but we confess that we do not look upon the events now transpiring in the French capital with any such indifference. Louis Napoleon and his Ministers are decided certainly, but we question if their places are very firmly held; and, for ourselves, we should be cautious in speculating in stock to any large amount. Business to-day has been rather firmer, and the Funds left off at the following rates:—

Three per Cent. Consols, 91½ to 1. Bank Stock, 192 to 194. Reduced Threes were 91½ to 1. Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 92½ to 1; Long Annuities, 8½ to 9; India Stock, 243 to 246; India Bonds, 46s. to 49s.; Exchequer Bills, March, 39s. to 42s.; June, 44s. to 47s., premium.

Foreign securities have not been so largely dealt in. The semi-monthly settlement of account occurred on Wednesday last, when a decline was felt in one or two stocks which have lately shown a disposition to rise.

Since then the dealings have been more restricted. Quotations below.

For the last four or five days the market for Railway shares has not been so brisk as last week. Every day the market has experienced a fluctuation similar to that in the English funds. The disposition of speculators evidently inclines towards Shares, and that the greater portion of the present demand is merely speculative cannot well be doubted, when the violent fluctuations of the last few days are referred to. It will be seen that the Share Market has entirely followed the fluctuations of the English Funds: when these have fallen 1 per cent., the heavier Shares have declined £5 or £6; when Consols have rallied about 1 per cent., the Share Market has improved £4 or £5. If the purchases of the last few days had been real investments, these rapid fluctuations could hardly have occurred.

Money in the city continues extremely abundant, and discounts on first-class bills have been as low as two per cent.

Accounts received from Germany state that a mining company at Berlin, the Modun Smalt, late under the name of Benecke, had failed, and involved several firms in heavy losses. It was still asserted that the house of Stieglitz was largely interested in the Russian loan, and Messrs. Jec, Hamburg, are said to have contracted for a loan of one million sterling to Denmark, at 61½ for a Three-per-Cent. Stock.

Accounts have been received from the United States and the West Indies, but, commercially, they are of little importance. The gold fever for California is increasing.

In the Corn Market, on Monday, an advance of 1s. was experienced. The effect of the repeal of the corn-laws had been so long anticipated that, immediately, it has been little felt; all parties had been so long waiting for the measure to come into force, that the very change from a state of inaction to that of comparative activity was sufficient to infuse something like life into business, and there has consequently been more doing the last few days than for a considerable time past. There is nothing novel or extraordinary in this, when the real position of affairs is fairly considered. For months past buyers of grain, &c., have been anxiously looking forward for the 1st of February, as the time when the bonded stocks would be freed, a better choice of quality be afforded, and many thought that prices would not till then touch the lowest point. It is, however, a well-ascertained fact, that in commercial changes, such as that which has just taken place, the effects are generally anticipated before the time arrives when the alteration is actually brought into operation. We do not think, however, that all the effect of the repeal of the corn-laws in the markets for grain is yet apparent, and months may elapse before they will be really seen. Nor do we think that the effect will be so great in any way as was at first generally anticipated. Free-trade in corn is not FREE-TRADE; and, until the great principle is applied to all articles of importation, we cannot expect to see that elasticity and increase in trade which should follow from the removal of all the restrictions which have hitherto fettered and cramped it. Until that time shall arrive, no one, we think, can justly talk of the failure of Free-trade. It has not failed, for the very good reason that it has never yet had a fair trial.

The Produce Markets this week have been fairly active, and prices remain much the same as at this day se'nnight.

RAILWAY SHARES.

The highest price is given.

SHARES.	RAILWAYS.	PAID.	CLOSING PRICE.
100	Aberdeen	50	20
100	Birmingham and Gloucester	100	12½
3. 6. 8	Blackwall	13. 6. 8	5½
Stock	Brighton	50	35½
100	Bristol and Exeter	90	21 dis.
50	Caledonian	50	25
50	Chester and Holyhead	50	21 dis.
Stock	Eastern Counties	20	11½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow	50	43
100	Great North of England	100	242
50	Gr. Southern and Western (Ireland)	45	12 dis.
100	Great Western	100	99
50	Hull and Selby	50	104
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	86	63
50	Lancaster and Carlisle	50	56
50	Leeds and Bradford	50	101
Stock	London and North Western	100	138
Stock	Midland	100	95
Stock	Norfolk	100	50
25	North British	25	17½
50	Northern and Eastern	50	..
25	Scottish Central	25	26
50	South Devon	50	20
33. 2. 4	South Eastern and Dover	32½	25½
50	South Wales	23	14½ dis.
50	South Western	50	44
Stock	York and Newcastle	25	30
25	Ditto original Newcastle & Berw.	25	30
25	Ditto new ditto	20	21½
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.	8	9½
Stock	York and North Midland	50	58
25	Ditto E. & W. Riding Extension ..	25	29
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.	10	11½
FOREIGN.			
20	Boulogne and Amiens	20	8½
20	Dutch Rhenish	7½	5½ dis.
20	Northern of France	12	4½
20	Orleans and Bordeaux	7	4
20	Paris and Lyons	10	5
20	Ditto and Orleans	20	29
20	Ditto and Rouen	20	18½
20	Rouen and Havre	20	10

PRICES OF STOCKS.
The highest prices are given.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols.....	91½	Brasil.....	79½
Do. Account.....	91½	Venezuelan Equador.....	20
3 per Cent. Reduced.....	91½	Danish.....	49½
3½ New.....	92½	Dutch 2½ per cent.....	46
Long Annulities.....	9	French 3 per cent.....	46
Bank Stock.....	194	Mexican 5 pr. et. new.....	25½
India Stock.....	246	Portuguese Convtd.....	23½
Eschequer Bills.....	49s.	Russian.....	16½
March.....	49s.	Spanish 5 per cent.....	25½
June.....	49s.	Ditto 3 per cent.....	8½
India Bonds.....	49s.	Ditto Passive.....	8½

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Name of Railway.	Week ending	Total receipts.	Same week 1848.	Miles open.
	1848-9.	£ s. d.	£	1849.
Aberdeen.....	Jan. 27	354 13 10	33	37½
Belfast and Ballymena.....	21	611 5 7	537	16
Birkenhead, Lanc., and Ches.	20	2,487 15 10	141	80
Caledonian.....	20	1,044 8 3	80	35
Chester and Holyhead.....	25	645 2 8	669	73
Dublin and Drogheda.....	30	686 18 5	515	77
Dundee, Perth, and Aberd.	27	889 16 7	474	67½
East Anglian.....	28	682 18 9	674	78
Edinburgh and Glasgow.....	27	2,614 11 0	3,138	307
Edinburgh and Northern.....	27	1,429 10 2	726	44
E. Counties and N. and E.	28	13,288 7 0	11,546	51½
East Lancashire.....	27	1,750 5 8	970	100
Eastern Union.....	27	1,105 3 8	1,082	234
Glasgow, Kilmarnock, and Ayr	27	2,035 18 8	1,756	130½
Glasg., Paisley, and Green.	27	771 10 8	945	306½
Great South, and West. (I.)	27	2,924 16 11	1304	206½
Great Western.....	28	16,674 9 4	1,188	435
Kendal and Windermere.....	28	9,929 16 1	8,168	307
Lancashire and Yorkshire.....	19	1,814 9 0	1,188	70
Lancaster and Carlisle.....	28	35,777 9 0	33,504	162½
London and North W., &c.	28	580 13 1	605	215
London and Blackwall.....	27	6,709 4 8	5,793	62
London, Brighton, and S. Coast	21	7,782 9 4	6,502	463½
London and South Western	27	2,707 2 1	2,047	50
Man., Shef., and Lincolnsh.	20	19,608 0 6	17,729	103
Midland, Bristol, and Birm.	28	974 7 4	50	84
Midland Great Western (I.)	20	787 5 1	37	45
Moakland.....	27	1,955 12 3	1,714	163
North British.....	20	4,945 0 0	6,007	55½
Paris and Rouen.....	20	1,938 0 0	2,316	40
Rouen and Havre.....	27	750 4 2	59	36
Scottish Central.....	23	1,234 15 9	468	145
Shrewsbury and Chester.....	20	6,558 19 10	6,512	270
South Eastern.....	26	1,199 10 5	554	12
South Devon.....	27	1,782 9 0	40	12
Taff Vale.....	21	685 13 1	596	34
Ulster.....	21	167 14 4	145	270
Whitehaven Junction.....	27	12,163 2 6	6,285	260
York, Newcastle, and Ber.	20	6,341 6 10	6,285	260
York and North Midland.....				

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, Feb. 2.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 27th day of Jan., 1849.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	28,315,870	Government Debt.....	11,015,100
		Other Securities.....	2,941,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion.....	13,813,798
		Silver Bullion.....	502,072

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital.....	14,553,000	Government Securities.....	13,882,267
Reserve.....	3,488,107	Dead Weight Annuity.....	10,427,541
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	3,877,648	Other Securities.....	9,638,345
Other Deposits.....	11,642,799	Gold and Silver Coin.....	726,201
Seven-day and other Bills.....	1,112,840		

£34,674,394

£34,674,394

Dated the 1st day of February, 1849.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

ANDERSON, WILLIAM, Nelson-street, City-road, engineer Feb. 14, March 15: solicitor, Mr. Linklater, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house.

BELL, CALDER, Darlington, Durham, whitesmith, Feb. 15, March 13: solicitors, Mr. Harle, Chancery-lane, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Mr. Mewburn, Darlington.

CAVANA, BERNARD, Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, clothier, Feb. 15, March 15: solicitors, Messrs. White and Co., Bedford-row; and Messrs. Stanley and Wasbrough, Bristol.

DAVISON, THOMAS, Leeds, carriage builder, Feb. 16, March 30: solicitors, Messrs. Trinder and Eyre, Bedford-row; and Messrs. Harle and Clarke, Leeds.

FLEMING, JOSEPH, Salter's-hall-court, City, printer, Feb. 8, March 15: solicitors, Messrs. Winter and Co., Bedford-row.

FULLER, JOHN GEORGE, St. James's-street, wine merchant, Feb. 14, March 16: solicitors, Messrs. Taylor and Collinson, Great James-street.

FULLER, WILLIAM, Charles-street, Hatton-garden, lamp manufacturer, Feb. 14, March 16: solicitor, Mr. Russell, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street.

GILBERT, HENRY PHILIP, Plymouth, carpenter, Feb. 13, March 7: solicitors, Messrs. Pontifex and Mognie, St. Andrew's-court, Holborn; Mr. Lavers, jun., Plymouth; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

GRIMBY, THOMAS, Stratford-upon-Avon, commercial clerk, Feb. 16, March 16: solicitors, Mr. Greves, Stratford-upon-Avon; and Mr. Sabine, Bristol.

HOWITT, EDWARD, Lincoln, miller, Feb. 21, March 14: solicitors, Mr. Rogers, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Mr. Brown, Lincoln; and Messrs. Shackles and Son, Hull.

BUSHWORTH, THOMAS, Leeds, victualler, Feb. 13, March 5: solicitors, Messrs. Wigglesworth and Co., Gray's-inn; and Mr. Myers, Leeds.

STANLEY, THOMAS, Dudley, Worcestershire, printer, Feb. 10, March 7: solicitor, Mr. Boddington, Dudley.

WHITFIELD, HENRY, Stafford, builder, Feb. 14, March 7: solicitor, Mr. Flint, Stafford.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

M'DONALD, JAMES, Dundee, baker, Feb. 8, March 8.

WRIGHT, JOHN SMELLIE, Feb. 9, March 2.

DIVIDENDS.

Henry Carpenter, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, oil merchant, div. of 1s. 3d.; and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—William Dawe, Exeter, plasterer, first and final div. of 1s. 3d.; any Tuesday after Feb. 6, at Hirt's, Exeter—John Haddock, Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, pawnbroker, div. of 3s. 4d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—David Jones, Liverpool, haberdasher, first div. of 2s.; Feb. 18, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Casenove's, Liverpool—Jonas M'George, War-

dour-street, Soho, Ironmonger, div. of 7d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—William Reynolds Rickman, Clement's-lane, City, commission agent, div. of 1s. 8d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—Henry Searle, Oxford, tailor, div. of 1½d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—Henry Smith Searle, Queen's-place, Kennington, dealer in surgical instruments, div. of 1s. 2d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court—George Small, Coventry, Warwickshire, draper, first div. of 3s. 7d.; any Thursday, at Christie's, Birmingham—William Tomlin, Charing-cross, carpet warehouseman, div. of 4½d.; Feb. 7, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Follett's, Sambrook-court.

Tuesday, February 6.

BANKRUPTS.

BOOTH, ISAAC, Crewe, Cheshire, linendraper, February 16, March 9: solicitors, Mr. Abbott, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. Slater, Manchester.

CARTWRIGHT, CHARLES NEWSAM, Leicester, spinner, March 2 and 23: solicitor, Mr. Bowley, Nottingham.

CHAPPELL, ROBERT COOPER, Water-lane, City, wine merchant, February 15, and March 23: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers.

COOPER, CHARLOTTE, Northampton, dealer in Berlin wool, February 16, March 24: solicitors, Messrs. Sles and Robinson, Parish-street, Southwark.

COWLES, MICHAEL, Nine Elms, Vauxhall, livery stable keeper, February 12, March 26: solicitor, Mr. Smith, Furnival's-inn.

LLOYD, RICHARD MYDDLETON, Wrexham, Denbighshire, banker, February 14, March 14: solicitors, Messrs. Raimondi and Tagart, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Messrs. James and Owen, Wrexham; and Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool.

LONG, JOHN ROBERT, Bath, linen draper, February 20, March 20: solicitor, Mr. Jones, Size-lane, London.

RUDGE, LEWIS, Great Barford, Bedfordshire, apothecary, February 14, March 21: solicitors, Messrs. Mitton and Co., Southampton-buildings, Holborn.

SLATER, THOMAS, Wombbridge, Shropshire, brick maker, February 17, March 17: solicitor, Mr. Smith, Birmingham.

SWIFT, ALFRED JOHN, Liverpool, iron founder, February 10, March 12: solicitors, Mr. Smith, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. Grealley, Liverpool.

THOMPSON, THOMAS, Manchester, merchant, February 16, March 9: solicitors, Messrs. Keightley and Co., Chancery-lane; and Mr. Barratt, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MUNRO, ALEXANDER, Ullapool, merchant, Feb. 16, March 9.

DIVIDENDS.

George Bishop, St. Mary-axe, City, merchant, 3rd div. of 1½d.; at Mr. Turquand's Guildhall-chambers, any Wednesday—Thomas Clarke, Henry-street, Kennington-lane, drawing master, 1st div. of 3s. 6d.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, any Saturday—William Isaac Dawson, Lime-street, City, cigar merchant, 1st div. of 3s. 7d.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—William Debeny, Mistle, Essex, victualler, 1st div. of 2s. 10d.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, any Saturday—Michael Folett, Upper Semerford-street, Mile-end, looking-glass manufacturer, 1st div. of 2½d.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Thomas Holland Forster, Haymarket, chemist and druggist, 1st div. of 2s.; at Mr. Turquand's, Guildhall-chambers, any Wednesday—John Gatrell, Lymington, Hants, upholsterer, 1st div. of 9s.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—James Dawson Green, Leeds, plaid manufacturer, second dividend of 7s.; payable at Mr. Hope's, Leeds, Feb. 6, and any subsequent Tuesday—William Hamblen, Queen's-road, Bayswater, agent for the sale and purchase of grain, third div. of 2s. 6d.; at Mr. Turquand's, Guildhall-chambers, February 7, and three subsequent Wednesdays—Alfred William Hare, Bartlett's-buildings, City, brush manufacturer, first div. of 4½d.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—John Plews, Store-street, Bedford-square, timber merchant, second div. of 9½d.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, February 3, and three subsequent Saturdays—Charles Pottinger, Banbury, Oxfordshire, tailor, first div. of 19s. 10½d.; at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—John Spofford, Chatham, linen-draper, first div. of 6d.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, February 3, and three subsequent Saturdays—David William Weddell, Gosport, Southampton, scrivener, first div. of 9d.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, February 3, and three subsequent Saturdays—Thomas Richard Withers, Rumbidge, Southampton, brewer, second div. of 8d., and first and second divs. of 7s. 8d. (on new proofs); at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, February 3, and three subsequent Saturdays—Thomas Young, Canterbury, leather seller, first div. of 6s.; at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, February 3, and three subsequent Saturdays.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Feb. 5.

Our supply of English Wheat to-day was only moderate, but (including the quantity released out of bond) very large of Foreign. The trade notwithstanding was firm this morning, and fully 1s. per qr. dearer than on Monday last, and at this advance a fair amount of business was done. Flour saleable at previous rates, though not so brisk as on Friday. We had a large arrival of English Barley, but there was no change in prices. Malt very dull. Beans and Peas slow sale. The supply of Oats was small, and for fine samples rather more money was paid. Rye very dull. Tares are more demanded at a slight advance. Linseed Cakes dull. Red Cloverseed quite as dear, but in white little doing. The following quantities of grain have paid the duty of 1s. per qr. in our port, on and since the 1st instant:—Wheat, 102,000; Barley, 25,000; Oats, 45,000; Beans, 8,000; Peas, 6,000; Flour, 36,300 cwt.

BRITISH.

Wheat—		
Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, Red.....	36	46
Ditto White.....	38	50
Lincoln, Norfolk, and Yorkshire, Red.....	36	44
Northumberland, and Scotch, White.....	38	42
Ditto Red.....	36	42
Devon, and Somerset, Red.....	—	—
Ditto White.....	—	—
Rye.....	24	31
Barley.....	24	31
Scotch.....	23	27
Angus.....	—	—
Malt, Ordinary.....	52	57
Pale.....	30	32
Peas, Hog.....	30	35
Maple.....	30	35
White.....	25	27
Boilers (large).....	28	30
Beans, Large (new).....	21	23
Ticks.....	23	25
Harrow.....	24	28
Pigeon.....	30	32

Oats—		
Lincoln and York, feed 17.....	23	
Do. Poland & Pot. 18.....	23	
Berwick & Scotch.....	20	24
Scotch feed.....	19	22
Irish feed and black 17.....	20	
Ditto Potato.....	20	24
Linseed, sowing.....	50	52
Rapeseed, Essex, new.....	26	28 per last
Caraway Seed, Essex, new.....	25s.	29s. per cwt.
Rape Cake, £3 to £5s. per ton		
Linseed.....	£11 10s.	£12 per 1,000

Flour, per sk. of 280 lbs.		
Ship.....	30	34
Town.....	38	43

FOREIGN.

Wheat—		
Dantzic.....	48	57
Anhalt and Marks.....	41	48
Ditto White.....	45	51
Pomeranian red.....	47	54
Rostock.....	46	50
Danish, Holstein, and Friesland.....	43	46
Peterburgh, Archangel and Riga.....	41	44
Polish Odessa.....	43	48
Marianopoli & Berdianski.....	38	44
Taganrog.....	35	39
Brabant and French.....	40	45
Ditto White.....	42	47
Salonica.....	35	38
Egyptian.....	26	30
Rye.....	23	25
Barley.....	21	23
Wismar & Rostock.....	21	23
Danish.....	22	26
Saai.....	22	27
East Friesland.....	18	20
Egyptian.....	16	19
Danube.....	16	19
Peas, White.....	24	26
New Boilers.....	28	29
Beans, Horse.....	23	30
Pigeon.....	28	30
Egyptian.....	24	26

Oats—		
Groningen, Danish, Bremen, & Friesland, feed and blk. 15.....	18	
Do. thick and brew 20.....	22	
Riga, Petersburg, Archangel, and Swedish.....	16	18

Flour—		
U. S., per 196 lbs.....	24	26
Hamburg.....	22	23
Dantzic and Stettin 23.....	25	
French, per 280 lbs.....	35	37

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JAN. 27.

Wheat.....	45s. 3d.
Barley.....	38 0
Oats.....	17 0
Rye.....	38 11
Beans.....	30 3
Peas.....	32 8

AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.

Wheat.....	46s. 0d.
Barley.....	39 2
Oats.....	17 6
Rye.....	38 8
Beans.....	30 8
Peas.....	32 8

DUTIES.

Wheat, Rye, Barley, Peas, Beans, Oats, and Malt, 1s. per qr. Flour, 4½d. per cwt. Cloverseed, 5s. per cwt.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Feb. 5.

Notwithstanding the arrivals of foreign stock last week were on the increase, the supply on sale here to-day was limited, and generally speaking of very middling quality. There was a better demand for Beasts and Sheep, at full prices. Calves, however, commanded very little attention. From our various grazing districts the arrivals of Beasts fresh up this morning were but moderate, the time of year considered; yet they were slightly on the increase, compared with those reported on this day week. The Scots, short-horns, and Devons came to hand in full average condition. In the quality of the various other breeds no marked improvement was noticed. The dead markets having been fairly cleared of their last week's supply from the provinces, the attendance of buyers was tolerably good. Nearly all breeds of Beasts commanded a steady, though not to say a brisk, demand, at full rates of currency, a few of the prime Scots producing 4s. 2d. per 8 lbs., and a good clearance was effected prior to the close of business. An extremely small supply of Sheep was brought forward. As it was scarcely adequate to the wants of the butchers, there was a decided improvement in the quotations of 2d. per 8 lbs. The prime old Downs moved off readily, at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lbs. The late rise in the value of Veal had the effect of producing rather a large number of Calves on offer for a Monday's market. The prime qualities of Veal moved off steadily; all other kinds slowly, at last Friday's prices. The highest currency was 5s. per 8 lbs. Only a limited business was transacted in Figs. Prices, however, were supported, with a moderate number on offer.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.....	886	Sheep.....	2,850	Calves.....	196	Figs.....	160
Friday.....	886	.....	2,850	.....	196	.....	160
Monday.....	3,227	.....	16,290	.....	107	.....	138

Price per stone of 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	3s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.	Veal.....	4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.
Mutton.....	3 6 .. 5 0	Pork.....	3 4 ..

NEWGATE AND LEAENHALL MARKETS, Monday

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass			
Inferior Beef 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.		Int. Mutton 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.	
Middling do 2 8 .. 2 10		Mid. ditto 3 2 .. 3 10	
Prime large 3 0 .. 3 2		Prime ditto 4 0 .. 4 4	
Prime small 3 4 .. 3 6		Veal.....	3 8 .. 4 10
Large Pork 3 0 .. 3 8		Small Pork.....	3 10 .. 4 6

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

The mild weather in the past week operated against a free sale of Irish and Foreign Butter. The dealings in each were, in consequence, comparatively trifling; prices nominally as last quoted. For Irish Bacon there was an increased demand, and prices advanced 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Hams in better demand, no change in prices. Lard held with more confidence, and for

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—Hitherto there has not been much done in Cloverseed, but holders are firm. Canaryseed was in lively request to-day, and the quantity on sale being trifling, materially enhanced terms were realized. Tares were also enquired after. Small foreign may be quoted 28s. to 30s., and handsome large Brunswick 35s. up 38s. per qr.

BRITISH SEEDS.

Cloverseed, red 30s. to 35s.; fine, 35s. to 36s.; white, 30s. to 40s. Cow Grass (nominal)..... —s. to —s. Linseed (per qr.)..... sowing 56s. to 60s.; crushing 42s. to 48s. Linseed Cakes (per 1,000 of 3lbs. each)..... £11 10s. to £12 10s. Trefoil (per cwt.)..... 15s. to 21s. Rapeseed, new (per last)..... £27 to £31 Ditto Cake (per ton)..... £4 15s. to £5 Mustard (per bushel) white..... 8s. to 10s.; brown nominal. Turnip, white (per bush.)..... —s. to —s.; do. Swedish, —s. to —s. Coriander (per cwt.)..... 18s. to 25s. Canary (per quarter)..... 100s. to 110s.; fine 120s. to 125s. Tares, Winter, per bush..... 0s. 0d. to 0s. 0d. Caraway (per cwt.)..... 28s. to 29s.; new, 30s. to 31s. Rye Grass (per qr.)..... 17s. to 38s.

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Clover, red (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt..... 28s. to 35s. Ditto, white (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt..... 22s. to 45s. Linseed (per qr.)..... Baltic 42s. to 46s.; Odessa, 42s. to 46s. Linseed Cake (per ton)..... £8 10s. to £10 10s. Rape Cake (per ton)..... £4 15s. 5d. Coriander (per cwt.)..... 16s. to 20s. Hempseed, small (per qr.)..... 45s. to 48s.; do. Dutch, 45s. to 47s. Tares (per qr.)..... 28s. to 38s.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1½d. to 1½d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 1½d. to 1½d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 1½d. to 1½d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 2d. to 2½d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 2½d. to 2½d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 2½d. to 3½d.; ditto, 104lb. to 112lb., 3½d. to 4d.; Calf-skins, each, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 6d.; Horse hides, 8s. to 8s. 6d.; Polled Sheep, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 9d.; Kents and Half-breds, 3s. 9d. to 4s. 6d.; Downs, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 0d.

OILS.—Linseed, per cwt., 22s. 9d.; Rapeseed, English refined, 36s. 6d. to 37s.; brown, 35s. 6d.; Gallipoli, per tun, £44; Spanish, £43; Spermin, £80 to £81; South Sea, £25 to £26 10s.; Seal, pale, £25, to £26 10s.; do. coloured, £23 10s.; Cod, £23 15s.; Cocoa nut, per tun, £38 to £42; Palm, £28 to £31 10s. Whale Fins: South Sea, £135 per ton; North West, £135. There is a good demand at full rates. Linseed Oil, as will be seen by our report above, being rather dearer. Other quotations unchanged, but with a slight tendency to advance.

COAL MARKET, Monday, Feb. 5.

Market still continues very heavy, owing to the mild weather, with little or nothing doing in the trade. Stewart's, 15s. 9d.; Braddyl's, 15s. 6d.; Kellie, 15s. 3d.; East Hutton, 14s.; Wy-lam, 13s. Left from last day, 151 ships; fresh arrivals, 8. Total, 159.

COLONIAL MARKETS, Tuesday Evening.

The large public sales, consisting of 12,000 bags Mauritius, 3,000 bags Bengal and Madras, and 1,200 bags Ceylon, went off steadily at prices which averaged those of last week, the refining qualities being most in demand. In consequence of these sales, but a small amount of business has been done by private contract in the West India market—say 650 hds. only sold. A parcel of white Havannah is reported sold by private contract. Refined, steady; grocery lumps, 48s. 6d., 51s.

COFFEES.—The sales have gone off without spirit, and a considerable portion was bought in to sustain the market. A pile of good ordinary native Ceylon sold at 35s., the bulk bought in at that price.

RICES.—4,000 bags Bengal found buyers, in public sale, at previous rates; middling to good middling white, 13s., 11s. 6d. Tea continues in but limited demand.

INDIGO.—12,100 chests are advertised for the quarterly sales to commence on the 13th inst.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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THE COMMITTEE appointed to promote the Circulation of the "NONCONFORMIST" Newspaper, having closed their accounts, propose to celebrate the successful termination of their labours by holding a PUBLIC SOIREE at the LONDON TAVERN,

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Further particulars will be announced in a future advertisement.

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